

PUBLIC TESTIMONY – James Green

Sent: Monday, August 04, 2008 6:39 PM

To: McLaughlin, Craig D (DOH); Mel Tonasket; Mark Cooper; Mark; Kathy O'Toole

Subject: Comments from James W Green RE:Budget Analysis Meeting

To All State Board of Health members and others:

Craig, could you see that all members receive this?

Here are my observations and comments from the Final Budget Analysis meeting. It seemed to me that strings and accountability to any funding is paramount. Several items of concern arose in this meeting such as printer language around venting (exhaust) and the water lead testing.

As I recall from previous meetings, consensus was built around achieving 100% K-12 over four years. Now only 25% of middle and high school over four years is required, leaving at best a result of 100% in 27 years (if ever) only if schools test a different 25% each cycle! To me this seems severely weakened and wrong!

Also, discussion came up around water impervious backed carpet. A question was asked if seams must be sealed? My further investigation found an entity attempting to include carpet tiles without sealing seams which even if water impervious carpet were used, the intent is defeated by allowing pathways for moisture and contamination under carpeting. Therefore the answer to the question is yes, all seams MUST be sealed. Even then there is some risk around perimeter of moisture incursion. I would offer an alternative of only hard surface and no carpet. Also in the process and discussion of what other expenses may have been missed relating to HVAC systems, several maintenance reps expressed concerns of qualified staff on payrolls to check systems and see they are operating as designed and to manufacturers specs, therefore creating a cost to hire outside experts(a justifiable concern). After several discussions on this issue amongst members I made the comment that we need to call it what it is and require commissioning as I have advocated all through this process and in writing of next draft wording gets changed. At least then you can better analyze the cost/benefit and remember this is one of the main elements for creating a healthy school environment. By doing this we can then move forward to secure funding.

I would like to express my thanks to the SBOH for allowing my input through this phase for consideration.

Sincerely,

James W Green