



Letter Regarding Storm Damage and Campus Restoration

January 25, 2024

Dear National School District Families, Community Members, and Partners,

On Monday, January 22, 2024, a dangerous storm tore through National City and Southern California, presenting tremendous challenges to our students, staff, and operational systems. We are very proud to report that despite an incredible local total of 4 inches of rain falling in a span of just 3 hours, our schools were able to maintain safety and relatively uninterrupted learning for the students of National School District.

We applaud the outstanding efforts of our Maintenance & Operations Team, led by Director David Castillo, reacting to floods, leaks, power outages, storm drain problems, vegetation issues, and everything else imaginable in real time as the torrential rain persisted. The Child Nutrition Services Team, led by Director Jon Hansen, pivoted quickly from a normal cafeteria day to figuring out how to keep students in place and get food services to classrooms in locations all over the district. Later, despite many unpassable streets and freeways, under the guidance of Director Candy Byerly, NSD buses arrived on time at each site to ferry bus riders home safely as close to “on-time” as possible. Teachers, counselors, psychologists, and supporting staff throughout the district displayed great flexibility in adapting to the unpredictable challenges, and you will be proud to know that the National School District staff took an “all-hands-on-deck” approach, rolling up our sleeves (and our pantlegs) together to keep children safe and learning!

Despite the outstanding performance of staff, students, and partners on Monday, we continue to face facility-related challenges in the district resulting from the storm. Below you will find a status update for all schools, followed by a section detailing our action steps to address impacted campuses and learning spaces. All campuses will continue to repair and replace items such as ground vegetation and ground covering. We are working as quickly and as thoroughly as possible to ensure 100% full restoration of spaces and services for the district. Students and most staff will not be permitted into the impacted areas until contaminant testing and full restoration are complete.

Central

Systems and services fully restored

El Toyon

Systems and services fully restored

Ira Harbison

Systems and services fully restored

John Otis

Systems and services fully restored

Kimball

Significant water intrusion to 3 classrooms and additional staff office spaces (playground area portable structure)

See below for action steps

NATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Ryan Burke, Assistant Superintendent Business Services

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Creating Successful Learners... Now



Las Palmas

Systems and services fully restored

Lincoln Acres

Significant water intrusion into 5 classrooms
See below for action steps

Olivewood

Systems and services fully restored

Palmer Way

Significant water intrusion into the library and 1 classroom
See below for action steps

Rancho de la Nación

Significant water intrusion into 2 classrooms and 1 bathroom
See below for action steps

Action Steps for Full Restoration

The list below is for more significant repairs at Kimball, Lincoln Acres, Palmer Way, and Rancho de la Nación schools.

1. Water extraction in all areas, with dehumidifiers onsite (dehumidification is ongoing at present)
2. Lead and asbestos testing will be conducted for safety; response will depend on results.
3. Contents of impacted classrooms will need to be relocated, cleaned, and some items may need to be documented for total loss.
4. Potential cabinetry removal and replacement as necessary.
5. Removal of tack board on affected walls. Demolition and repair of drywall, plaster, and flooring as needed.
6. Sanitize all affected areas, including flooring and exposed framing.
7. Conduct 3rd party post bacterial clearance
8. Additional repairs as needed.

We sincerely thank all parents, guardians, and community members for your generous support and time this week, and we applaud the community for the effective partnership we showed together to overcome the immediate dangers of the powerful storm. We ask for your patience as we take the appropriate, although not always expedient steps to ensure our campuses and affected areas are ready to use again. If you have further questions, please contact your site principal or my office as can be found at the bottom of this page.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ryan Burke
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

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