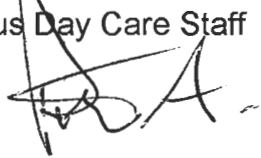




Office of the President

To: Eastview Campus Day Care Staff
From: Robert Aguero 
Date: January 5, 2005
Subject: Update on EVC Day Care Playground

Welcome back from the holiday break! As we start off the New Year, I would like to provide you with information on the additional testing and remediation that took place on the Eastview Campus Day Care Playground.

Pockets of soil on the playground that indicated a presence of benzo(a)pyrene at levels which exceeded standards set by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) have been almost entirely removed and replaced with new soil. Soil removal in one of the four such pockets is not yet complete. Children will be isolated from contact with soils at this location by a new geo-textile cover that was placed during the holiday.

As an additional safeguard, the geo-textile barrier was also placed over all soil and mulch areas (i.e. non-paved areas) of the playground. Once the ground barrier was added, new layers of clean top soil and sod grass were placed over it in areas where children are less likely to fall; in areas beneath playscapes a new layer of engineered mulch was added.

While the ground barrier was being installed, analysis of soil vapor samples taken from shallow depths (about 3 feet) below the soil of the playground detected a low presence of several chemicals, including benzene. As a result of these findings, the air in the playground was tested. This air testing did detect some of the same compounds found in the underlying soil vapor, but at much lower concentrations. Levels of all chemicals found in breathing zone air (i.e., above the ground) were well below TCEQ health-based protective levels. Air samples taken from inside the Day Care buildings also tested at below protective levels.

Despite these findings, in order to ensure that the conditions observed during testing are typical, and that levels of airborne chemicals remain below acceptable levels, ACC will have the environmental testing firm perform repeated sampling throughout the semester.

Eastview Campus Day Care Staff

January 5, 2005

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As mentioned in earlier memos, the college is working closely with the TCEQ to ensure we are taking the proper steps to address any environmental issues at ACC Eastview facilities. The health and safety of ACC faculty, staff, students and visitors is a priority to this administration and we are working diligently to comply with applicable TCEQ regulations that will keep our facilities protected.

RA/pws