

# SMMUSD Performs a Secret Cleaning Before PCB Dust and Air Testing, Biasing Results

On Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the SMMUSD ordered a "special" cleaning of the classrooms prior to Environ testing the dust and air. They asked teachers to remove all items from all surfaces so they can send a "special" crew to remove dust from surfaces; the same surfaces that Environ will be wipe testing hours later.

This renders PCB results meaningless. The goal of wipe and air testing is to see what the students and staff have been exposed to for the past 4 months. However, if they clean it hours before testing then any evidence of PCB exposure is removed.

This was done to guarantee the results are below EPA guidelines. Sadly, these test results will be nothing more than a PR move by the district to reassure parents and waste taxpayer dollars.

Last summer, Environ proposed a pilot study to evaluate the effectiveness of PCB Best Management Practices cleaning. If the district is interested in knowing what students and staff are being exposed to through-out the year, why not investigate and perform unannounced, random wipe and air tests, rather than secretly clean all the dust before testing?

## **EPA States Caulk Tested by Independent Parties Must Be Removed**

Steve Armann, EPA manager Region 9 states the district must remove all PCBs greater than 50 ppm in compliance with TSCA and "this includes caulk tested by independent parties."

#### Click here to read:

http://malibuunites.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/EPA-email-says-independent-tests-must-be-removed-12-2014.pdf

### The Oct 31st approval by the EPA was very clear:

"EPA's included approval address (ONLY) the PCBs remaining in the substrate (known as PCB remediation waste) after PCB-containing caulk is removed at both schools." Meaning PCB sources must be removed and the sources that have contaminated other material (called PCB remediation waste) can be left in place until renovation occurs and levels in air and dust remain below guidelines

#### Click here to read:

http://malibuunites.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/10-31-2014-EPA-Approval-Remediation-Waste.pdf

### The SMMUSD is Spending an Outrageous Amount of Money to Distract the Parents and Students

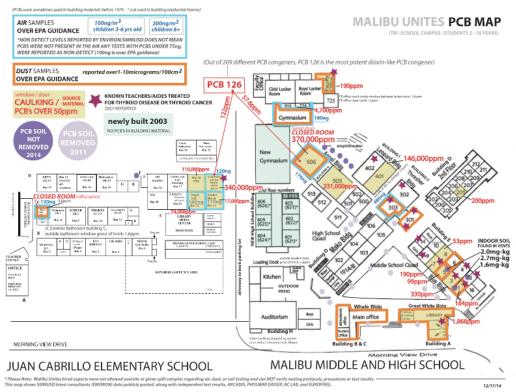
The PCB levels have come back at some of the highest in the nation and the EPA has ordered the removal of PCBs including those from independent tests. So the 2 million dollar question is, why spend over 2 million dollars with Environ doing "distraction" testing and Pillsbury Law firm rather than spend it to remove PCBs from our children's schools?

Especially when the costs to remove PCB-laced caulking is estimated to be approximately \$500,000.

#### PCBs Affect a Whole Building, Not Just a Single Window

If PCB-laden caulking over 50ppm has been found in one classroom, then it is probable that PCB-laden caulk is in all classrooms in that building. It would be absurd to propose removal of only the tested window (which is what the district has proposed) when adjacent windows used the same caulking that contain high levels of PCBs.

#### Map of Jaun Cabrillo Elementary and Malibu Middle & High Schools



Rooms so far tested over 50ppm

Malibu High School: 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 205, 401, 505, 506, 704,

Old Gym Office, library

Jaun Cabrillo Elementary School: Office, 18, 19, 22, 23

Buildings that have already shown caulking exceeding 50ppm: Malibu High School: A, B, C, D, G, I, F, Old Gym and Jaun Cabrillo Elementary School buildings: A C, F.

Up to now, there has been no source testing done in: Malibu High School building H and Jaun Cabrillo buildings: B, D, E.