

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the completion of the initial inspections of public schools and the submission of the necessary reports as at 02nd July 2018; the then Minister for the Cabinet Office with responsibility for Government Reform gave a commitment for a further undertaking to conduct follow-up and verification inspections of all public schools.

To this end, the Office of the Safety and Health Coordinator along with representatives from the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Education started the follow-up and verification inspection field work exercises on 17th September 2018 and same were completed on 17th October 2018.

The generation of individual school reports commenced on the 22nd October 2018 and were completed and circulated to the representatives of the Ministries of Public Works and Education that participated in the field work exercises on 02nd November 2018 for their review, comments and any other necessary inputs deemed necessary.

Final return submissions after review by the parties from the Ministries of Public Works and Education were returned to the Office of the Safety and Health Coordinator during the week of the 23rd of November 2018. The Office of the Safety and Health Coordinator having received the respective returned submissions, completed the follow-up and verification inspection reports for each school and submissions were made to the Cabinet Office on 17th December 2018.

Below are some of the major highlights determined for each school as contained in the final reports for each respective public school. The fulsome details related to all the matters outlined below may be found throughout the body of the respective report for each public school.

Clearwater Middle School

- High degree of poor hygiene and sanitation within the Canteen Kitchen, food preparation and serving areas, as well as, adjacent supporting areas
- Improperly equipped Science Laboratories and supporting Prep-rooms, poor chemical storage and handling practices without proper supporting ventilation systems
- The Main Custodial Supplies Store Room ongoing potential asbestos exposure concerns
- The Gymnasium and its related and supporting areas
- Poorly functioning D & T Classroom Dust Exhaust Extraction and Control Systems and poor housekeeping practices
- Aged unhygienic and insanitary carpeting materials throughout various points across the School
- High degree of poor housekeeping and storage practices within the HVAC System Control Room – overcrowded with obsolete materials and supplies
- Damaged or perimeter fencing along some areas and other related security concerns
- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems, as well as, locked emergency exit points

- Poor custodial cleaning practices and services within some areas/buildings
- Roof leaks within the some areas/buildings

Dellwood Middle School

- Generally, a significant amount of improvement works are still ongoing. However, there remains a litany of minor works yet to be addressed across the entire school complex; within its buildings and supporting facilities.
- Cafeteria – previous floor damage has worsened and was to be attended to as a major priority activity.
- Several classrooms are still without fire extinguishers
- Renovation repairs at the Gymnasium and adjacent supporting areas are still in progress but yet to be completed
- IT/Telecoms Room continues to exhibit a high degree of poor housekeeping, with a significant amount of materials and supplies improperly stored
- D & T rooms are still without proper safety systems and or supporting safety system alternatives such as functioning eyewash and first aid kits, proper exhaust and ventilation systems
- Improperly equipped Science Laboratories and supporting Prep-rooms, poor chemical storage and handling practices without proper supporting ventilation systems
- Roof leaks within the some areas/buildings
- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems

East End Primary School

- Emergency Response and Communication System connectivity between buildings and necessary repairs to fire alarm notification system remains unresolved
- Renovation works at the Cottage Building are still in progress, pending completion
- Library/Computer Room minor ceiling damages have morphed into major concerns and are to be attended to as an urgent priority
- Excess overgrown vegetation along back perimeter fencing remains unresolved
- Sewage drain covers are still not properly secured, as well as, water tank cover remains without lock or proper locking device
- Custodial supplies and storage room remains heavily contaminated with mould; increasing risk potential for sanitation supplies to become cross-contaminated
- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems

Elliot Primary School

- Custodial supplies and storage room continues to exhibit high degree of poor housekeeping
- Broken drain cover, resulting in relatively significant open hole on upper school playground across from the Library remains unresolved
- Mould concerns within Education Therapy room remains unresolved
- Reports and request for investigation into fluctuating power supply at school remains unresolved
- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems

Francis Patton Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- Mould issue within “Find Your Voice” and Resource Materials Rooms remains unresolved

Gilbert Institute

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- Mould issue inside Therapy Room remains unresolved
- Turtle Pond remains without guard fencing or other access protection systems
- Emergency exit from stage area inside Assembly Hall remains permanently obstructed
- Western Assembly Hall elevated sections of corridors remain without guardrails
- First Aid Kits and emergency medical supplies remain non-compliant

Heron Bay Primary School

- Issues regarding Administrative Assistant’s Workstation remains unresolved
- Issues regarding poor layout, and adequacy of space for reading room remains unresolved
- Hygiene and sanitation concerns inside boys’ bathroom remains unresolved
- Poor housekeeping concerns inside custodial supplies and storage room remains unresolved

Lagoon Park Pre-School

- General concerns regarding poor state of cleaning, hygiene and sanitation of the facilities remain unresolved
- Issues surrounding incomplete sections of the security perimeter fencing and other damaged areas remain unresolved, as well as, overall security access/exit to the facility

Lyceum Pre-School

- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Water intrusion and excess moisture build-up in classroom two remains unresolved
- Concerns regarding the continued use of banned floor stripper chemical remains unresolved

Northlands Primary School

- Water marked and damaged ceiling tiles/leaks
- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding

Paget Primary

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Mould contamination remains across various areas
- Small Hurricane damaged asbestos shed remains unabated
- Poor Indoor Air Quality within Autistic room remains unresolved

Port Royal Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Poor Housekeeping and Improper storage of materials and supplies remains unresolved
- Water leaks and wall damaged inside conference room remains unresolved; impacting classroom storage area beneath it

Prospect Pre-School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Poor Housekeeping and the improper storage of materials and supplies remains unresolved
- Logistics to the operation and management of security gate remains unresolved, as well as, the incomplete fencing of sections of the perimeter fence
- Outstanding works pertaining the outdoor environment remains incomplete
- Poor and inconsistent cleaning of the school facilities remains unresolved

- Repair works to staff break room/building remains incomplete
- Repair works to chemical storage area remains incomplete

Prospect Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Chemical storage and custodial closets remains unsecure
- Continued used of banned chemical still visible inside chemical storage area

Purvis Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Improper storage of materials and supplies within some areas generally remains unresolved, including the improper storage of paints and other supplies.
- General and routine cleaning practices within some areas remains unsatisfactory
- Mould contamination within general storage area remains unresolved
- Some areas emergency exits remains obstructed, as well as, some areas are without clearly marked or designated emergency exit points

Saint David's Pre-School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Quality and level of cleaning remains unsatisfactory
- Signs of leaks and or water damaged areas remain not rectified
- Inadequacy of ventilation across numerous areas remains unresolved; giving rise to mould growth in some areas

Saint David's Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Damage to perimeter fencing along some section of the fencing system remains unresolved, as well as, fencing and securing of garden pond

- Removal of banned chemical from school's custodian storage area remains resolved

Saint George's Pre-School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Safety concerns at playground area remains unresolved
- Mould contamination inside storage cellar remains unresolved

Saint Paul's Pre-School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Poor storage of materials and supplies remains unresolved

Sandy's Secondary Middle School

- The majority of findings from the original inspections remains unresolved.
- Numerous points of roof/ceiling leaks
- No fire and or emergency notification connectivity between PE Teachers Building and the Main Buildings
- Several portions of PE Teachers' Building remains in a poor state, increasing the possible potential for negative cross-effects to the spaces occupied by PE teachers
- Level of sanitation and hygiene inside canteen and during food service operations requires improvement
- Issues relating to the D&T classroom and supporting practical areas remain unresolved
- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Poor storage of materials and supplies remains unresolved

Somerset Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Signs of water damage and leaks remain within some areas

Southampton Pre-School

- Damaged playground equipment remains unresolved
- Water overflow from guttering system remains unresolved
- Some areas still exhibiting damage from water intrusion or leaks
- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding

Success Academy Two (2)

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Some areas still exhibiting damage from water intrusion or leaks
- Steps and walkways still without supporting hand/guardrails
- Ceiling damage within Principal's Office has worsened

TN Tatem Middle School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Emergency Exit door from Auditorium remains obstructed and others inoperable
- Several areas remain with sign of water damaged or intrusion, as well as, minimal levels of mould contamination
- Mould stench inside music room remains resolved
- Back areas of music room: IT Server room and stairway remains mould contaminated along with and obstructed respectively
- Outstanding issues at Canteen remains unresolved
- Outstanding issues at the D&T classroom and labs remains unresolved
- Outstanding issues at the science labs, including prep-room remains resolved – highly level of poor housekeeping, chemical storage and supplies management
- No-functioning fume hood, no emergency eyewash systems or showers operable without suitable alternatives such as bottled eyewash solutions despite previous recommendations
- Guidance Department Area remains without suitable means of safe evacuation from the area
- Auditorium back stage area and basement rooms, baths and adjacent areas remain in a high state of disrepair
- Quality of cleaning remains unsatisfactory

- Outstanding issues at gymnasium remains unresolved – bathroom upkeep, cleaning and incomplete repair works
- Obsolete materials and derelict items remains round and about some areas of school compound
- Security concerns remains unresolved stemming for previous incidents on school property
- Concerns regarding elevator and elevator systems room remains unresolved
- The absence of toiletries in some bathroom remains unresolved

Victor Scott Primary and Pre-School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Extensive mould contamination and water leak with PTA room and adjacent areas remain unresolved
- Extremely poor state of conditions within the outside storage buildings remain unresolved
- Damages to girls gym bathroom remains unresolved
- Location of the custodian storage supplies area in proximity to girls bathroom remains a serious concern and not fully addressed given the significant nature of the concerns raised

Warwick Pre-School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Concerns regarding the mix-use of space/building with Ministry of Health Clinic remains unresolved without proper and secure separation between the two entities and their operation inside the building
- Damaged wooden beam along corridor connecting the two buildings remain unresolved
- Fire Damage repairs yet to be completed

West End Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Loose ceiling fan remains not repaired
- Open ditch/trench across back side door emergency exit remains uncovered
- Unsecured water tank covers

- Poor coordination and related logistical arrangements within and about car park drop-off/pick-up zone, complicated by appropriate separation barriers between car park and play green areas, as well as netball court
- No dedicated emergency response and or connectivity between buildings
- Significant levels of mould contamination within custodial supplies storage areas
- Continued sightings of rodent droppings inside some classrooms and administrative office areas
- Inconsistent water supply to some sinks inside boys' bathroom (intermittent disruptions or very low flow pressure, at other times, no water from some taps).

West Pembroke Primary School

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Concerns regarding structurally compromised perimeter wall to the back of the south building remains unresolved
- Blocked sink drains inside art room remains unresolved
- Loose ceiling fan inside P3 Classroom remains unresolved
- No handrails along steps leading to auditorium
- Unsecured water tank covers remain unresolved
- Trip and fall hazards relating to several plastic stumps along foot path at front of school remains unmarked or otherwise resolved
- Corroded sewage line with minor intermittent leak inside bathroom remains unresolved
- Malfunction elevator with expired inspection certificate still not addressed

Whitney Institute

- Improper inspections and service check of fire safety equipment, devices and protection systems
- First Aid Kits and Medical supplies remains non-compliant, as well as, the personnel with First Aid and CPR Credentials remain outstanding
- Majority of air conditioning units improperly serviced and maintained
- Damaged emergency exit door (311) retractor bar remains not repaired
- Science labs still not properly equipped with functional fume hoods and other safety and emergency response systems such as proper eye wash and or eyewash solutions
- Prep-rooms remains cluttered and disorganized giving rise to improper storage practices and poor housekeeping
- Concerns regarding the improper use of electrical extension cords with different ratings remain unresolved
- Several damaged windows across the school remains not repaired
- Several storage areas contaminated with mould, associated with poor ventilation and cleaning

- Concerns outlined regarding the Art Room remains incomplete
- Repairs to Attic sections of the administration block building remains incomplete
- Concerns related to the D&T Workshop and the previous findings listed remains unresolved

There were several findings common to every public school and they are as follows:

- Poor Housekeeping and Improper Storage - generally refers to the overall and noted instances of inappropriate means and methods of storage of materials and supplies, as well as, poor or unsatisfactory maintenance and upkeep of school plants and their supporting facilities and related apparatus
- Poor hygiene and sanitation - generally refers to poor or otherwise improper cleaning of school plant and facilities to achieve an acceptable or satisfactory quality level of cleaning, sanitation and hygiene – relative to daily and ongoing cleaning efforts and practices.
- No currently established and efficiently function workplace safety and health committees
- Non-availability of MSDS/SDS (Material Safety Data Sheets/Safety Data Sheets) for all chemical substances and materials, solutions and related supplies found in each school. This compounded by the improper use of these such items, inclusive some chemicals that were previously recommended for discontinued use still being supplied to and are being used by the custodial staff assigned to each school.
- Excessive accumulation and hoarding of educational materials and supplies – relative to their, improper storage, cleaning, upkeep and maintenance. The non-cleaning, upkeep and maintenance of these items and excesses continue to pose challenges towards achieving improvements in cleaning, hygiene and sanitation and good indoor air quality. In many instances, facilitating mould growth.
- The majority of First Aid and Medical Supplies Kits at most schools were non-compliant with regulatory requirements. Additionally, the credentials of designated First Aiders were not verifiable as they were not available on file for inspection. At other times, such personnel admitted to their credentials having been expired.
- Improper inspection and servicing of Fire Extinguishers and other Fire Safety devices and supporting apparatus. These are items were being inspected and service-checked once per year for the most part. However, they are required to be inspected and service-checked at least twice per year.
- All school facilities exhibited some sign or degree of mould contamination (some more than others) within and across different areas of buildings and related facilities. However, no school had identified mould problems sufficient or significant enough at the time of inspection to

warrant any major concern or that could be considered to and or likely posing any immediate or imminent risks to the safety, health and wellbeing of students or teachers at the time of inspection. However, the extent to which mould contamination was identified can be significantly reduce through improved daily cleaning (in scope and quality), discontinuation of poor housekeeping and improper storage practices, reduction in the quantity of items, materials and supplies being stored or being kept within the various areas throughout the schools.

- Indoor air quality at most the schools were considered satisfactory generally. However, there were specific points and locations within each school where indoor air quality is required to be improved.
- Two Schools were identified with damaged or otherwise exposed asbestos material that would be required to be remediated. However, the location of the asbestos material at one school was very small and could be removed overnight without any disruption to the school's operation. At the other, the asbestos identified was damaged (i.e. fraying with a high potential for fibres to become airborne and possibly transported outside of the immediate area) and immediate steps were taken to remove occupants from the location and sealed the area pending remediation work. The asbestos was not in an area generally accessed by students or academic personnel but was sufficiently close enough to warrant the immediate closure and sealing of the area out of an abundance of caution, as well as, to prevent any potential for unsuspecting personnel exposures.
- The overall level of security at all schools was deemed insufficient and a comprehensive review of the current security arrangements should be undertaken relative to proper and complete perimeter fencing, access and exit controls for buildings and visitor control access, lighting, electronic security monitoring (CCTV), in place security personnel training and other related matters at all schools should be undertaken as a matter of priority.
- Poor pest control management; generally related to roach, ants and termite infestations within school facilities. Some schools also had incidences of rodent infestations; however, such instances were not overly pervasive but appeared to be localized to the precise locations where such instances were observed and noted. In some instances, these issues are related to the modus operandi of the school administrators and student activities.
- Poor cleaning and upkeep of HVAC systems (inclusive of central, split and cassette air conditioning systems) and supporting apparatus. These systems are required to be inspected and service-checked in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and or industry best practices.
- Roof/ceiling leaks. The majority of schools had some sections with signs of water and or moisture intrusion which could either be from actual ceiling leaks, fugitive escape of condensate water or water entering from elsewhere. All indicative areas should be investigated and the necessary repairs undertaken accordingly.

- The majority of schools had issues relating to the improper layout and alignment of electrical and or information and communication technology wires. These continue to pose trip and fall hazards and must sorted, properly aligned and controlled. Additionally, there is an inherent practice of electrical extension cords being used as permanent electrical wiring options. Such practices must be prohibited and otherwise be controlled given the potential risks for circuit overloading, and resultant fire risks.

Summary of Findings

Throughout and at the close of inspection activities; numerous shortcomings relating to the overall quality and scope of cleaning, upkeep and maintenance in tandem with improper modus operandi practices, and other omissions by school administrators, academic and custodial staff at the respective schools were observed and documented. There were also several breaches of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 1982 and the enabling Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 2009 that were noted.

Generally, all schools were deemed to be relatively safe, within time and scope comparative to their operations and related practices. However, all of the schools had challenges relating to sanitation and hygiene, maintenance and upkeep of their buildings and related facilities. Notwithstanding same, the majority of findings were not considered significant enough to be deemed to be posing any great immediate threat to the safety, health and wellbeing of teachers or students at the time of inspection, except where and as noted otherwise.

Notwithstanding the foregone, the litany and variety of findings are indicative of the need to ensure that every school undergoes consistent routine, scheduled and timely maintenance and repair activities towards ensuring that school are being optimally cleaned, upkeep and maintained in an acceptable state on a sustained basis to help ensure the safety, health and wellbeing of teachers and students alike.

Accordingly, all the major findings outlined in the individual reports for each must be given urgent and priority attention, as well as, all the minor findings outlined are required to be satisfactorily addressed or otherwise resolved before they start to pose or morphed into greater occupational safety and health challenges or transition from latent to active and more serious hazards and increase risk.

