

**Fluvanna County Public Schools
Press Release**

July 15, 2010- High School Construction Report

The Fluvanna County School Board heard from the high school construction team last night regarding water retention tank failures at the site. At the board's request representatives from BCWH (the architectural firm), the Timmons Group (the engineering firm), Nielsen Builders (the general contractor), and Jackie L. Massie Contractor (the sub-contractor) were present to provide an informational update. The tanks, used for storm water management, are intended to retain the water which would then be used to irrigate the athletic fields.

Currently, samples of the tank materials and the ground are being extracted for testing to determine the cause of the failures. Work on the tanks has ceased until a determination has been made as to the cause of the failures. The Fluvanna County School Board was assured that these tanks have been installed by the general contractor in other Virginia locations and there has never been a failure. The interested parties have given assurances to the board that they will get to the root cause of the failures and keep the board informed. The architect will be expected to provide recommendations to the School Board as to how to proceed with the water retention system once the cause of the failure has been determined. The construction team has been scheduled to give a public update at the next regularly scheduled board meeting on August 11, 2010.

The contract calls for the School Board to take possession of the new high school building in April, 2012. At this point, the construction is proceeding ahead of schedule and the tank failures are not expected to cause a delay in the completion of the project.

Barbara Gibbons
Chair, Fluvanna County School Board