

January 26, 2026

Bennett Families:

#### School Radon Testing

Student learning and the safety of students, staff, and community are priorities for Bennett CSD. The administration of Bennett CSD is providing you with this notification that initial radon screening will be conducted during the week of February 2nd-6th, 2026.

The testing is not harmful in any way, and there is no need for students, parents, or teachers to do anything special in preparation.

Radon testing is required at least once every five years for all Iowa public school attendance centers, licensed preschools, and licensed childcare centers. Radon is *naturally occurring everywhere*, but, if elevated, can cause an increased risk of lung cancer over the course of a person's lifetime. Our district has received training and has proactively placed our building on a radon test schedule.

To test for radon in the air, kits that look like small envelopes will be used in our learning spaces. It is important these kits are not disturbed, and that exterior windows and doors are kept closed except for normal entry and exit. The envelopes will be left in place for five school days.

Final radon testing results will be communicated by the Bennett CSD radon team to the board of education, staff, and the public on our website. In the event that elevated levels during occupied hours are found, steps will be taken to correct the issue using methods suggested by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

For most students and staff, research suggests that school and workplaces are the second largest contributors to radon exposure. The home is likely to be the most significant source of radon exposure. We have free home radon tests, donated by the American Lung Association, for any family interested in testing their home. Parents and staff are encouraged to test their homes for radon and to take action to reduce elevated concentrations. Please contact the office if you are interested in having a radon test sent home.

If you have further questions regarding radon testing in Bennett CSD, please feel free to contact

Chris Sorgenfrey, Shared Maintenance & Operations Director at (563) 886-6121 ext.1105 or [chris.sorgenfrey@tipton.k12.ia.us](mailto:chris.sorgenfrey@tipton.k12.ia.us)

or

Shane Knoche, Superintendent at 563-370-4032 or [shane.knoche@bennett.k12.ia.us](mailto:shane.knoche@bennett.k12.ia.us).

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

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