To:

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Subject:

Date:

The College has extended the closure of the PE Building, as well as the associated rescheduling/relocation of classes and activities, through final exams week to December 22. Please see the rescheduled/relocation schedule at this link or in the PDF attached to this memo.

Arrangements are still underway for relocating athletic events for this period. Please watch your MC email inbox and the MC website homepage for information when it becomes available. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we work to minimize disruption of scheduled athletic events.

The extended closing of the PE Building will allow time to conduct workplace environmental tests by third-party firms that are licensed by the State of Maryland to perform this work. The College commissioned these tests after learning that asbestos may have been released during replacement of the building's ceiling tiles last month. The building's air and workplace surfaces will be tested for asbestos, particulate matter, and mold. Earlier this semester, the College commissioned thirdparty tests for mold in the PE Building, which indicated there was no mold hazard.

Based on the new series of tests, the results of which will be made available to the MC community, the College will commission third-party, licensed contractors to address Montgomery College Community

Marvin Mills, Vice President of Facilities

Rescheduled/Relocated Classes from the PE Building

December 6, 2019

any building issues that could present a health concern, including asbestos, mold, and particulate matter. Follow-up testing will confirm that the building is absolutely safe for use. The College will announce the date for reopening the PE Building, and the status of associated classes and activities, as soon as possible.

Along with following guidance from Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH), the College has retained the services of Dr. Hung K. Cheung, a Maryland-based consultant who is nationally regarded as an authority on indoor air quality and workplace health. In addition to serving on the Maryland Governor's Task Force on Indoor Air Quality, Dr. Cheung is on the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and widely recognized as an expert in Respiratory Environmental Medicine.

The College has asked Dr. Cheung to meet with faculty and staff who worked in the PE building during the ceiling tile replacement project about their workplace concerns. Those meetings will begin next week and will continue after the holiday break to include students and others who have questions or concerns.

Please know that we are working hard to minimize disruption of College operations and activities while employing the best expertise available to bring the PE Building safely back online. Please contact my office with any questions and remember that we appreciate your cooperation as we work to ensure quality workplace and learning environments.