

LOCAL NEWS

Last updated at 11:06 AM on 23/06/09

St. Francis' parents, students raise mould concerns, says Butler **LATEST NEWS**

The Telegram

The Opposition education critic says parents and students at St. Francis school in Harbour Grace are concerned about a mould problem as well as efforts to address the situation.

In a release, Roland Butler said he has been told mould can be seen on walls being renovated.

And while remediation work appears to be taking place, he said students are concerned about being forced to write exams in the gym during the construction.

He added they are troubled with the noise and their potential exposure to mould

"There are certainly air quality issues that have been identified at St. Francis," said Butler.

"My question is, why students are being exposed to this work and any potential mould that may be present?"

In similar situations, he pointed out, schools were shut down and alternative arrangements to accommodate students were made.

Butler said that while air quality is the first concern, the disruption students are experiencing should be also be considered.

"I am asking the minister of education and the Eastern School District to look into this situation to determine whether the mould issues identified have been contained and whether the concerns of students and parents can be addressed during these final few days of classes."

If there are no health and safety concerns, Butler said officials should do everything possible to assure the families involved.

