



Eileen M. Donoghue  
City Manager

Kara Keefe Mullin  
Assistant City Manager

Alex Magee  
Assistant to the City Manager

BOH  
10-2-19

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor William Samaras and Members of the City Council

FROM: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager

EMD

DATE: September 24, 2019

SUBJECT: 2019 DLS File 19S-3487 Closed

The Department of Labor Standards recently informed the City that all necessary actions are in place relative to DLS File 19S-3487. The file, concerning heating and maintenance issues in a few schools within the City, has been closed as of August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 with a satisfactory resolution. Please see the attached letter.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns you may have.



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR STANDARDS

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ROSALIN ACOSTA  
SECRETARY

WILLIAM D. MCKINNEY  
DIRECTOR

September 5, 2019

DLS File: 19S-3487

Eileen Donoghue  
City Manager  
City of Lowell  
375 Merrimack Street  
2nd Floor, Room 43  
Lowell, MA 01852

Dear Ms. Donoghue:

Thank you for sending us documentation that you have implemented the corrective actions outlined in the DLS letter dated April 10, 2019, which provided an extension to the due date for the corrective actions outlined in the DLS report dated January 28, 2019. The DLS case is closed as of August 30, 2019.

**Item No. 001**

**Condition in DLS report:** Heating systems and heating systems components in the Lowell Schools are not being maintained and operated as designed, resulting in frequent incidents of insufficient heat in portions of various schools in the Lowell Public Schools. This condition has been on-going for several years.

**City of Lowell Response:** A heating system inventory and repair schedule was provided for each school. Repairs of many components have been completed, and additional repairs are underway.

**Item No. 002**

**Condition in DLS report:** There are 10 school buildings in the Lowell Public School system that are designed for two boilers, but that only have one operational boiler.

As indicated in the DLS extension letter dated April 10, 2019, this item was closed as of March 25, 2019.

**Item No. 003**

**Condition in DLS report:** Long-term lack of a regular inspection, maintenance, and repair program of school heating systems has led to widespread equipment breakdown of heating system components throughout Lowell Schools. Currently inspections, maintenance, and repairs are not tracked, so it is not known which equipment needs inspection, maintenance, and repair and when this is needed.

**City of Lowell Response:** A detailed preventive maintenance plan and schedule for the heating systems was provided to DLS.



---

Hilary Hackbart  
Industrial Safety and Health Inspector  
Department of Labor Standards

Approved by:



---

Mary Dozois, CIH  
Supervisor, Workplace Safety & Health Program