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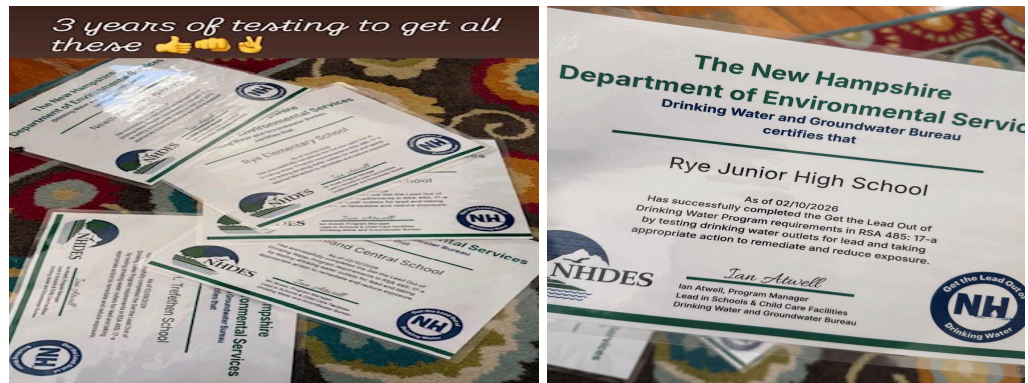
Brian Helfrich
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SAU 50 Director of Facilities - Administrator Report **Brian C. Helfrich - Rye - April 2026**



Accomplishments, Successes & Near-Term Projects:

- ★ The New Hampshire “Get the Lead Out” program was a 3 year long water testing study for all the SAU 50 schools. I am excited to report we earned these certificates from the NH Department of Environmental Services outlining our efforts and success in providing safe drinking water.

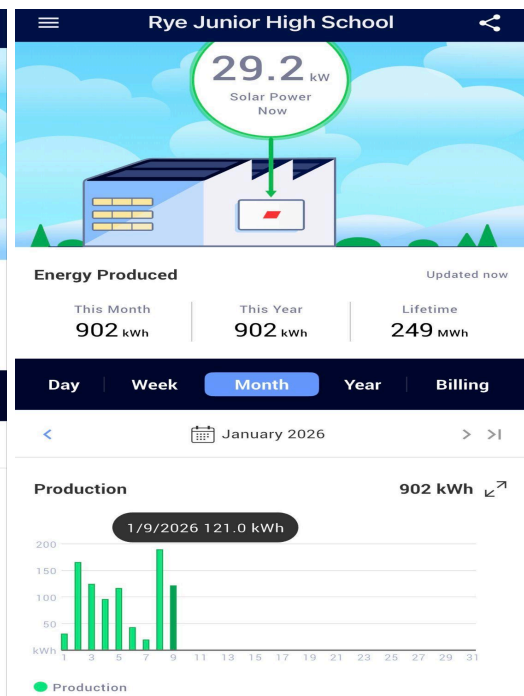
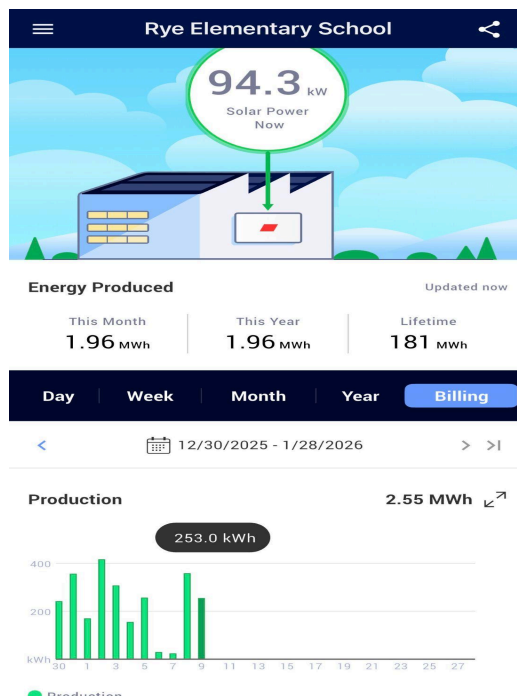


- ★ Our 3 year AHERA Re-Inspection (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) is underway. I expect them to be completed at all SAU 50 schools soon and will share the results in a future report. Safety is

of the utmost importance and RPF Environmental is a great partner for our schools to work with.



★ I was asked by a few people what our solar production looks like and while this is just a snippet in time, I plan to have a small section in all reports moving forward. I contacted Revision last week to ensure our production levels are where they should be given the array set-ups and the sun exposure this time of year. We are due for a follow-up walkthrough and inspection which will take place this summer.





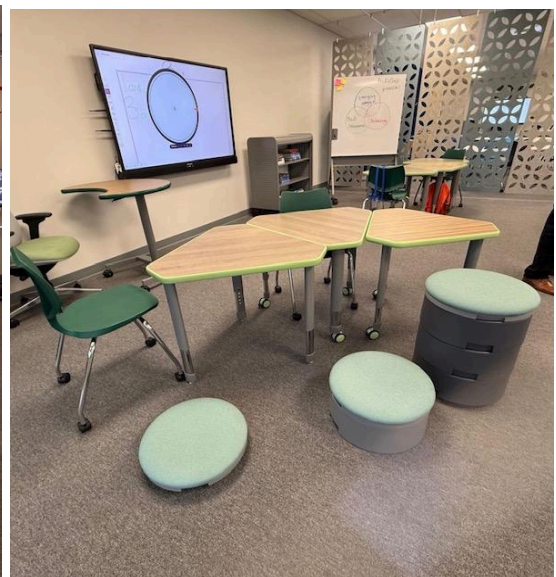
- ★ The new scoreboards have arrived at RJH. I want to acknowledge Jim and Dennis for their help in getting bugs worked out and training coaches and volunteers to use the scoreboards.





★ SAU 50 School Furniture Partner - Thanks to Chris Russo and Peter Latchaw (NPS Principal) for introducing me to [Learning Interiors](#). Over the past month I have visited their HQ in Chelmsford, MA on two occasions. Once for a conference with Chris and once with Peter to do a school specific design for some of his classrooms. We have already ordered through our contact at GCS and RJH and enjoy 26.5% savings, free shipping and professional install. One thing that I have noticed is that furniture orders have been all over the place in SAU 50 and Amazon is commonly used resulting in not ideal classroom, office and conference room set-ups. My goal is to create a classroom specific CIP for each school to help guide teachers and building admins furniture orders.





- ★ The CIP as of this report can be found below. I have spent time updating all SAU 50 CIP's from a 5 year plan to a 10 year plan to better give us a roadmap for future budget needs. As a reminder, this is an ever growing and ever changing document that transforms based on our needs year in and out.

[x 10 Year Rye School CIP_ 2027-2036](#)

- ★ [APH Plumbing](#) will be snaking the RJH drains over April Break. They will be using a 100' snake camera to see the status of as much of the drains of the school as possible and provide a report. We are hopeful they uncover some information related to the continued odors that appear at random days/times throughout the building.

- ★ On February 5th [RPF Environmental](#) conducted an Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) test to ensure safe levels within the building. Their observations and test report can be found below. All IAQ parameter testing were within or below the respective standard except in a hallway. The relative humidity (RH) seems to be the cause of many of the issues which is common in NH winters. If we want to address the concerns, adding humidity and ventilation would make the building more comfortable.

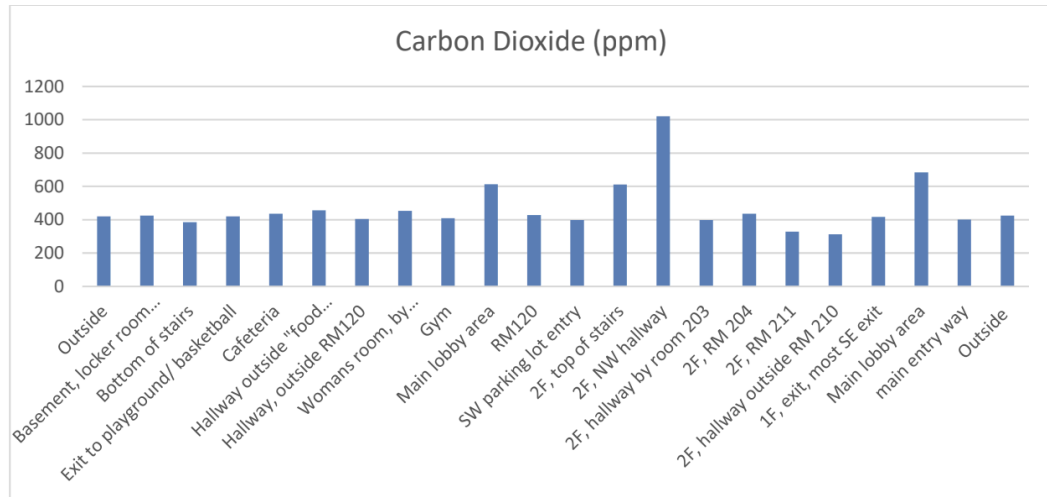
 [260027 RJH SAU 50 IAQ Report.pdf](#)

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

In addition to the findings and recommendations provided above, RPF opinions related to the IAQ within the areas of the facility tested based on the results and our observations are presented below.

- Overall, the readings collected inside the building for each IAQ parameter tested during this inspection were either within or below their respective standard and/or comfort range, except for CO₂, CO, and RH. Some of the RH levels in the building were below the generally accepted comfort range of 35 to 55%, which is not uncommon during colder months in New England. On the day of the testing, the RH levels outside of the building were also below the generally accepted comfort range and could have contributed to the low RH levels in the building. Low RH levels can contribute to irritated mucous membranes, dry eyes and sinus discomfort. The RH levels will naturally increase with the coming warmer weather but, in the meantime, humidifiers can be used to alleviate symptoms. However, it should be noted that if not properly cleaned and maintained, these units can become sources of future fungal growth.
- PM10 readings collected within the building were below the NAAQS of 150 ug/m³, except for a reading collected in the main lobby area, which was above the standard. RPF recommends the feasibility of increasing/adding FOA to this area.
- During the site visit in response to reports of a methane gas or sewage odor, no identifiable source was located, and no sewage related odors were detected by RPF at the time of the inspection. In the event this odor persists or recurs, RPF recommends contacting the local Fire Dept to check for possible gas leak(s).

The CO₂ results and testing locations are presented in Table 1 of Appendix A. CO₂ levels at all indoor locations tested were documented in the range of approximately 313 to 1022 ppm, which is well below the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Permissible Exposure Limit (OSHA PEL) of 5,000 ppm. These concentration ranges are also below the generally accepted guideline limit of 800 to 1,000 ppm, except for the location (2F, NW hallway).



Carbon Monoxide

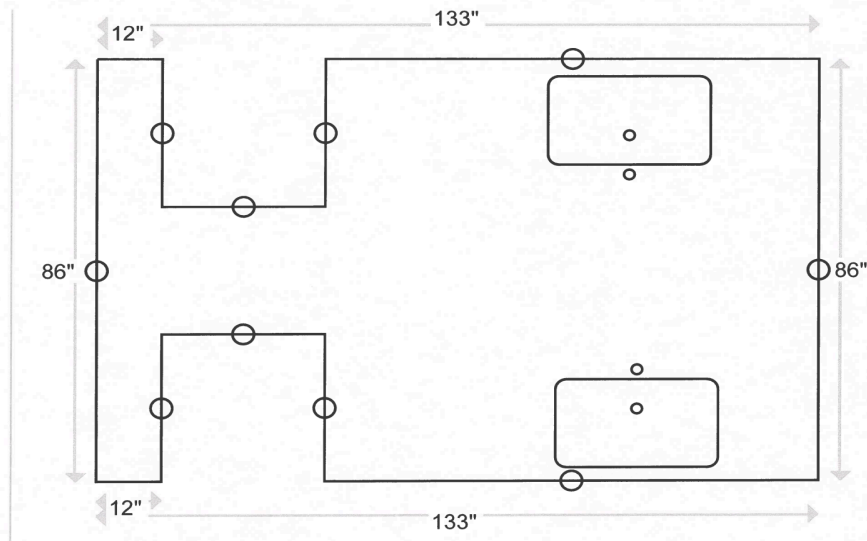
Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless, and toxic gas, and is a by-product of incomplete combustion. Exposure to CO can produce immediate and acute health effects. Transient low levels of CO in building spaces can sometimes be attributed to vehicle exhaust, cigarette smoke, or other sources of combustion in the actual space or adjacent to the air handlers for the space.

Minor transient meter readings may also be due to changes in temperature and humidity depending on the test equipment used.

Carbon monoxide concentrations at the indoor tested locations were found to be less than 0.9 ppm and ranged from 0 to 0.9 ppm, which is below the OSHA PEL of 50 ppm. These results and testing locations are presented in Table 1 of Appendix A.

RPF recommends the use of carbon monoxide alarms. Other than proper installation and maintenance of alarms and furnace heating systems, no action is recommended as it relates to CO.

- ★ The life skills [kitchen project \(quotes\)](#) is a joint effort by the [Rye Education Foundation](#), [Rye PTA](#) and the school board. This is a first step in growing that life skills room to accommodate more students and modernize the space by adding another sink, cooktop and countertop space so less students are left watching and can directly be involved in cooking, food prep, hands on education etc.



Sau-50 Rye Junior High School "Life Sciences Remodel"

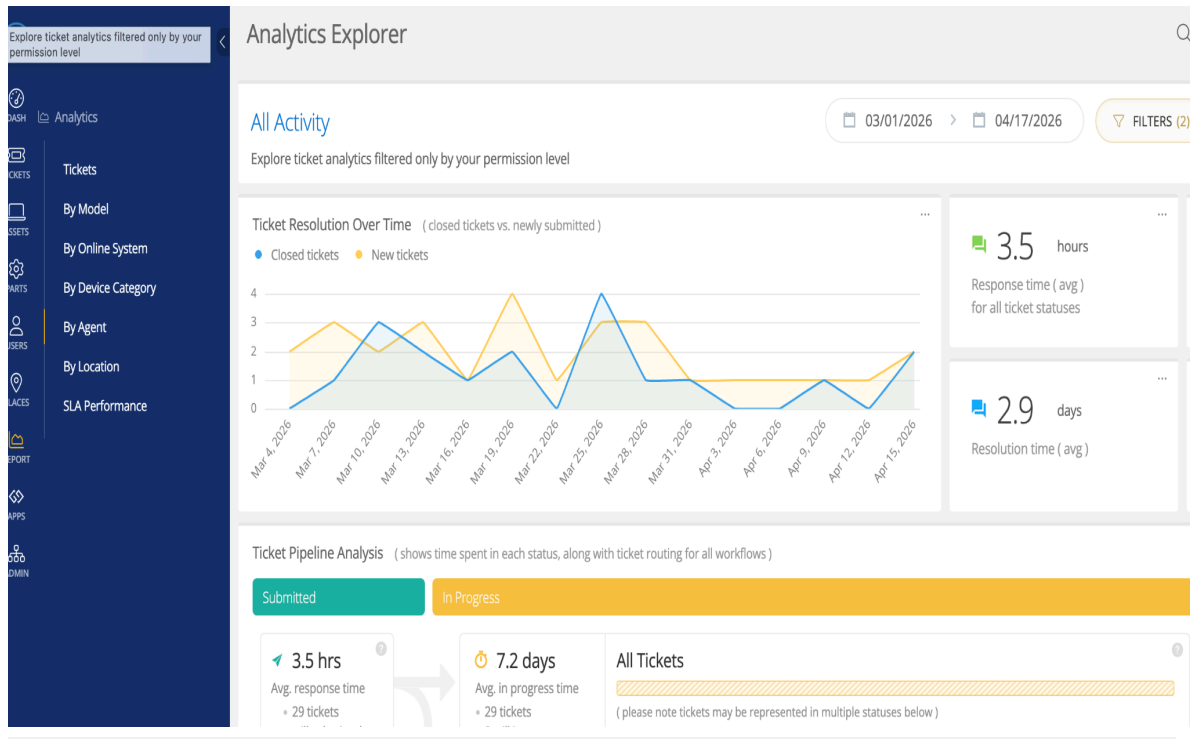
501 Washington Rd. Rye, NH 03870

Scope of work located:

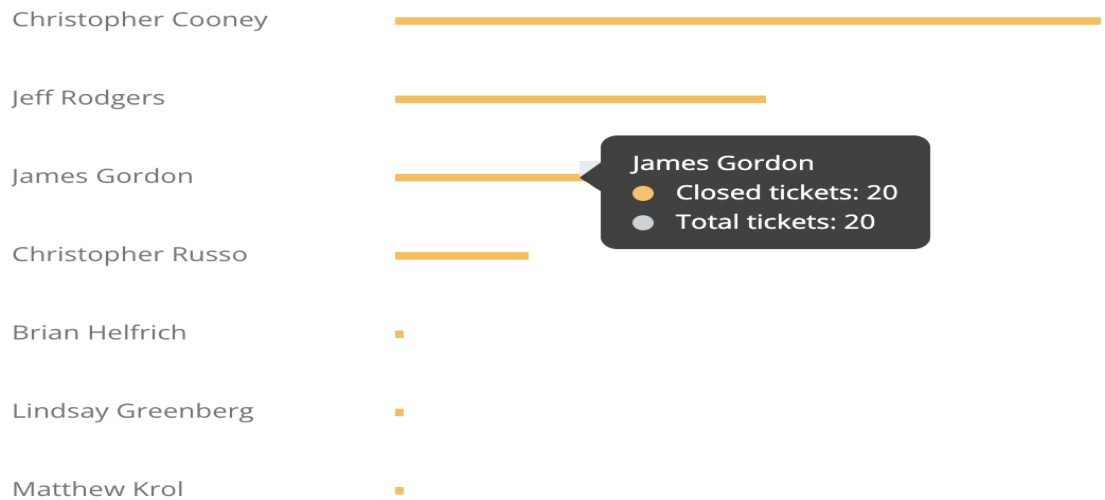
Life Sciences room

- Cabinetry – Schrock Trademark, Aspen door white, all plywood box, wood drawer boxes, full Ext drawer glides.
- Countertop-Coastal quartz (stocked color), template and install 2 undermount stainless single sinks.
- Plumbing-4 kitchen sinks total. Two within island and two along perimeter wall.
- Rework drainage adding mechanical vents.
- Install new hot and cold shutoffs.
- Change all traps and risers
- Supply 4 undermount stainless sinks, 25x18x8" deep
- Supply and install 4 Elkay gooseneck style faucets in chrome (no spray) with separate single lever control.
- Provide Zline 48" convertible 400 CFM ceiling hood vent.

★ Over the past couple months we have trained Jim Gordon and the RES/RJH staff to utilize our Incident IQ ticketing system as it relates to facilities tickets. Thanks to Chris Russo and Chris Cooney for getting everyone up to speed. It has been a huge success for facility day-to-day efficiency and sets a standard of realistic expectations from staff to Jim and vice-versa. We are also able to store information and solutions in each ticket that can be referenced back to in the future.



Top Agents by Ticket Count (sorted by total tickets)



★ Carbon Monoxide alarms for SAU 50 schools. The American Red Cross is proud to partner with the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office to install free carbon monoxide alarms and smoke alarms for schools who applied for the grant. While we have protection in place, this builds upon that.

On Fri, Apr 17, 2026 at 1:11 PM Newnan, Erin <Erin.M.Newnan@dos.nh.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon, Mr. Helfrich.

Thank you for returning my call this morning. The NH State Fire Marshal's Office has been awarded a grant to put carbon monoxide (CO) alarms into the schools in the State of New Hampshire. I have attached our press release which explains the project. There is no cost to the schools and no hardwiring. These are for most schools the first CO alarm in the building but for your schools will be added safety. We propose adding to boiler room entrances/exits and kitchen areas. The visits are usually about 30 minutes/school. Investigator Brynn Dunne will be in contact with you to schedule appointments.

I am happy to answer any questions you might have about the project.

Respectfully,
Erin Newnan



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Robert L. Quinn
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, January 14, 2025

MEDIA CONTACT:
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State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
Division of Fire Safety
Office of the State Fire Marshal
nh.gov/firemarshal



Sean P. Toomey
State Fire Marshal

NEWS RELEASE

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE ANNOUNCES CARBON MONOXIDE GRANT *WORKING SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS SAVE LIVES*

CONCORD, N.H. – New Hampshire State Fire Marshal Sean Toomey is pleased to announce the launch of a project focused on reducing unnecessary carbon monoxide (CO) deaths in the state through public education and free installation of alarms in schools and homes.

The purchase of more than 2,000 CO alarms was made possible through grant funding provided by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Grant Program.

"Keeping families and children safe is our top priority in New Hampshire, and I am proud to see our state agencies and nonprofit partners working to save lives and prevent carbon monoxide poisoning," said Governor Kelly Ayotte.

"We are determined to reduce incidents of carbon monoxide poisoning and bring unnecessary CO deaths down to zero," said State Fire Marshal Toomey. "We want residents and visitors to be aware of CO poisoning risks and to be able to recognize carbon monoxide sources. This 2-year project will help us work toward that goal."

The New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office is collaborating with New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management, another division of the New Hampshire Department of Safety, and the New Hampshire Department of Education to contact every school district to arrange visits to more than 600 schools in the state. In a recent survey, 75% of responding schools shared they did not have carbon monoxide alarms. State employees will install alarms at schools and share resources with families.

"This important collaboration between state and nonprofit groups will help protect Granite Staters and educate them on how to make their homes safer, too," said New Hampshire Department of Safety Commissioner Robert L. Quinn. "I am grateful for all the work that our team has done and will continue to do on this project."

Pictures Around Rye



Hey Best Buy, I cleared out all your air purifiers 😊



The roofing dream team doing a two year inspection of the Rye elementary roof conditions 🙌👉👉

Rye Elementary School



