

Rain shows where weaknesses are

By Tim Smith
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It rained hard the last day of school before spring break and almost as hard the first day

back. Despite a few leaks at Farmington High School and Longfellow Elementary School, the district's facilities managed to withstand the rainfall. Monday's rain

apparently did not cause the kind of leakage that took place Thursday, April 20, at Farmington High, with leaks springing in a couple of construction areas, said architect Ronald Aton, of the district's facilities department.

"That three-inch deluge we had (on April 20) was the first rain we had in a long time," Aton said Monday afternoon. "We found out where all the (structural) weaknesses are and got those corrected."

Aton said the amount of damage done by the rain wasn't "even enough to make a claim" with the district's insurance company. "I don't think it was even worth \$100."

There was one leak uncovered in the girls locker room in the new north-south corridor, Aton explained.

"That was the worst one," Aton said, noting that a roof pipe was improperly connected. "Water was puddling on the floor."

Another wet area was in the new technical-education wing, where some water snuck in because the metal wall flashing was not snug, Aton said.

None of the problems were severe enough to impact classes. Recent problems aside, Aton

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Ronald Aton
—School district facilities department

FARMINGTON SCHOOLS

said instances of leaking roofs are much fewer than a decade or so ago because of the efforts of a roofing consultant, Tremco Roofing. The company diligently watches roofs for potential problems, and makes recommendations on whether to fix or replace roofs.

Meanwhile, if a leak is discovered, Tremco is on call to take care of it within 24 hours, Aton added.

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