

THERE IS A STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT “RELATIONSHIP” BETWEEN SPENDING YOUR DAYS AT MALIBU HIGH SCHOOL AND THYROID CANCER

How likely is it that there would be three Thyroid Cancer diagnoses within a calendar year from a group of approximately eighty people (an estimate of the employees working full time in the Malibu High School buildings), while assuming that the probability of being diagnosed is the same as it is for the U.S. population in general? (The three teachers with thyroid cancer all taught in classrooms with toxic illegal levels of PCB in caulk or with wipe samples considered “PCB Contaminated” under the PCB Regulations. As of today, at least three student alumni have also been diagnosed with thyroid cancer. There are also at least 14 known cases of thyroid disease among teachers, and three cases of melanoma or pre-melanoma (a cancer which is also associated with exposure to PCBs) among teachers and former teachers, as well as other serious health problems.)

The definitive source for Cancer diagnosis rates in the U.S. is the (“SEER”) database of the National Cancer Institute. According to SEER, The number of new cases of Thyroid Cancer is 12.9 per 100,000 men and women per year. We will use the number 0.000129 as the probability that an adult is diagnosed with thyroid cancer in a particular year.

A common problem in statistics is figuring out the odds of a particular outcome, such as getting exactly 3 “heads” out of 80 coin flips, when repeatedly flipping a weighed coin of known probability. Rather than bore you with the foundational work needed in the explanation, let me just jump to the solution: the Binomial Distribution Formula, which you can google yourself for background. It shows the odds of getting an exact number of “success” results, in our case 3 out of 80 repeated trails, where the probability of an individual “success” is know to be 0.000129. It is ironic to call getting a diagnosis of thyroid cancer a “success,” but this is the language of the many free online “Cumulative Binomial Calculators” which are available. The term “cumulative” refers to expressing the results as “3 or more” – rather than “exactly 3.”

Plugging in 80 for the “number of trials,” 3 for the “number of successes,” and 0.000129 for the “probability of success” you get: 0.00000018. That is less than 1 in 5.5 million. To put it into perspective, this is less likely than flipping a fair coin 22 times and getting heads each and every time.

Getting one Thyroid Cancer diagnosis out of eighty people in a year would happen roughly one percent of the time (1 in 97). This alone could be used to argue that the null hypothesis of “no relationship” is false, as the rejection level is usually set at either 5 percent or 1 percent. Getting 2 diagnoses drops the odds to 1 in over 18,000. **Getting 3 or more drops the odds to 1 in over 5,500,000.** To me, there is no question about whether the results are “surprising.” They are. There is no question about whether the results are “statistically significant.” They are.

These findings demonstrate that there is a statistically significant “relationship” between spending your days at Malibu High School and Thyroid Cancer. We all need adequate answers about the nature of that relationship, and some sense that it has been adequately addressed. In their July 27, 2014 release, SMMUSD indicates that PCB levels are safe now, and were safe prior to testing. If true, all that tells me is that we haven’t found what we are looking for yet. Hopefully the search for the “relationship” continues until it is identified and remedied.

Patrick Witting Ph. D

Sources:

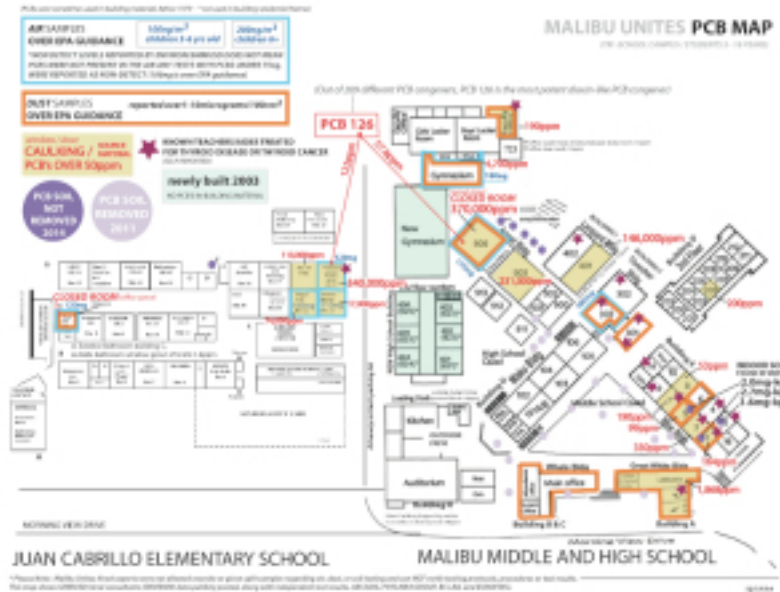
See: Malibu Patch Article entitled: “Thyroid Cancer at MHS: What Are The Odds”

<http://patch.com/california/malibu/thyroid-cancer-mhs-what-are-odds>

See: UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT for the CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA (Western Division – Los Angeles) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 2:15-cv-02124-PA-AJW

America Unites for Kids et al v. Sandra Lyon et al Date Filed: 03/23/2015
Assigned to: Judge Percy Anderson

This Malibu High School and Malibu Middle School along with Jaun Cabrillo's campus map highlighting testing results of toxins and presence of illness (thyroid cancer, thyroid disease and nodules) paints a pretty convincing picture of the harm already caused.



See the many test results which reveal shockingly high PCB exposure at Malibu High School and Jaun Cabrillo Elementary School:

[7 17 14 Malibu PCB lab results1-1](#)

[9 23 14 Latest Malibu test results](#)

[10 17 14 PCB 126 lab report J Cabrillo](#)

[10 17 14 PCB 126 lab report MHS](#)

[3 25 15 New malibu test results](#)

AMERICA UNITES FOR KIDS ACCUSES THE SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF "SECRET CLEANING" BEFORE PCB DUST AND AIR TESTING

<https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.wordpress.com/2014/12/27/america-unites-for-kids-accuses-the-santa-monica-malibu-unified-school-district-of-secret-cleaning-before-pcb-dust-and-air-testing/>

On Tuesday, December 16th, 2014, the SMMUSD ordered a “special” cleaning of the classrooms prior to Environ testing the dust and air. They asked teachers to remove all items from all surfaces so they can send a “special” crew to remove dust from surfaces; the same surfaces that Environ will be wipe testing hours later.

See link to email: [Special-Cleaning-12-16-2014](https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/special-cleaning-12-16-2014.pdf)

<https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/special-cleaning-12-16-2014.pdf>

John Ferbas MS., Hyg., Ph.D stated the following:

“The fact that Malibu High School and Jaun Carillo Elementary School contain caulking with PCB levels orders of magnitude above even the most conservative PEL estimates is egregious.” -Ferbas

Read John Ferbas MS., Hyg., Ph.D. July 2014 letter to the EPA and SMMUSD:

[Ferbas-health-letter](https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/ferbas-health-letter.pdf)

<https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/ferbas-health-letter.pdf>

The SMMUSD’s Superintendent Sandra Lyon sought the assistance of the California Association of School Administrators to lobby the EPA to not enforce PCB source testing and remediation in Malibu schools.

See link to the California Association of School Administrators email to the EPA.

[California Association of School Administrators Email to EPA](https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/california-association-of-school-administrators-email-to-epa.pdf)

<https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.files.wordpress.com/2015/03/california-association-of-school-administrators-email-to-epa.pdf>

See JD Supra Article dated May 21, 2015:

<http://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/the-smmusd-has-spent-six-million-dollars-79259/>

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is spending an outrageous amount of money

See list of SMMUSD expenditures to date:

https://lawofficesofbarryfagan.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/11200986_700561446719884_1823505260638714771_o.jpg

	Amount	Date
Malibu		
environmental	\$2,938.95	11/07/13
phymer group	\$184,138.00	11/07/13
pillbury	\$18,000.00	1/14/14
phymer group	\$108,708.00	2/6/14
IBC Environmental	\$42,808.00	2/20/14
phymer group	\$18,000.00	3/6/14
pillbury	\$128,000.00	3/6/14
fagan, freedom, fullfoot	\$128,000.00	3/6/14
fagan, freedom, fullfoot	\$128,000.00	3/20/14
DTSC	\$41,544.00	3/20/14
Environ	\$128,000.00	5/13/14
fagan, freedom, fullfoot	\$128,000.00	5/13/14
Environ	\$800,000.00	6/5/14
pillbury	\$128,000.00	6/9/14
Parents Environmental	\$48,000.00	6/29/14
fagan, freedom, fullfoot	\$128,000.00	7/16/14
Environ	\$400,000.00	8/28/14
DTSC	\$12,948.00	9/18/14
Environ	\$800,000.00	10/16/14
MMA Communications	\$128,000.00	11/6/14
pillbury	\$200,000.00	12/12/14
pillbury	\$300,000.00	1/15/15
Environ	\$300,000.00	1/15/15
Delach Huff Soares	\$18,000.00	1/15/15
Western Fence	\$5,054.10	1/15/15
DTSC	\$14,025.00	2/5/15
Delach Huff Soares	\$18,000.00	2/18/15
Environ	\$750,000.00	2/18/15
Delach Huff Soares	\$25,000.00	4/15/15
Environ	\$300,000.00	6/18/15
Marie Williams	\$15,000.00	Mar 14
Total	\$5,489,816.05	

*missing IMF closing crew costs
*missing staff costs

See: Malibu Times article concerning a Malibu Parent’s “Call for Action” http://www.malibutimes.com/opinion/article_b72d0206-e939-11e4-9843-db91a10fb632.html

“It would seem to me that the only way to get this corrupt district to act properly, in addition to the lawsuit, is to boycott the school. If the parents at the schools would keep their children home and put a picket line in front of the schools, the media would attend and the attention would show the world what is going on. **The parents must show that they will not put up with the district ignoring the danger that its policy is putting children in.**”