



FYI FROM DPI

MARCH 2015

DPI Helps Schools Rebuild After Loss



On January 7 at 8:25 a.m. a fire loss was reported at Old Dock Elementary School (Columbus County Schools) to the DPI's School Insurance Fund. By 11:15 a.m., two DPI funds claim experts were onsite at the school to meet with the Columbus County Schools superintendent, finance officer and maintenance director, the Old Dock School principal, local fire marshal and others.

After the group discussed plans to move displaced students to mobile units and fencing was placed around the damaged building, DPI Insurance Fund staff approved the beginning of demolition and cleanup of the burned structure to begin as soon as possible.

It turns out the 18,000 square feet of the main building, which was home to the 1st and 2nd grade classrooms, the administration office, and the school's media center, were completely destroyed. Classes were cancelled just one day as Columbus County Schools worked to place students in temporary classrooms until mobile classrooms arrived.

Thanks in part to DPI staff, by January 30, new textbooks had been delivered to the school, mobile classroom units were open for students, demolition of the building was complete and an architect firm was hired to begin plans for rebuilding of the main part of the school. Over the next 1.5 years of the rebuilding process, DPI staff will work with the school district to make sure it receives the insurance funds it needs to move forward.

(Pictured right: Alan Becker, one of DPI's Master Literacy Trainers who works with staff in the K-3 Literacy Division, helps to sort and deliver the more than 400 books the trainers collected to replace books that were burned in the Old Dock School fire.)



Quick Facts About the Public School Insurance Fund

- The Fund was established under North Carolina General Statute Article 38, State Insurance of Public School Property.
- The Fund is charged with risk management, inspection and insuring the property assets of public schools and community colleges.
- The Fund currently insures school property assets, including all schools in 87 school districts as well as 31 community colleges, with a total insured value in excess of \$27 billion.
- The Fund operates with nine staff members who work with claims, accounting, insurance and risk control. This staff processes approximately 600 new claims per year for total estimated annual losses in excess of \$6 million.



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NC Districts Participating in the Public School Insurance Fund

