

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Jeffrey Puma  
Community High School  
District #155  
T: 815-455-8500  
jpuma@d155.org

Thomas Pollnow  
Crystal Lake Fire Department  
T: (815) 356-3640  
tpollnow@crystallake.org

## **MINOR CHEMICAL SPILL DISRUPTS PRAIRIE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL**

None Injured as Chemistry Class, Affected Area Evacuated

CRYSTAL LAKE, Ill., Sept. 28, 2006 — A minor spill of two chemicals caused the evacuation of a section of Prairie Ridge High School late this morning. There have been no verified medical issues or injuries to students, teachers, or staff as a result of the spill. The school is scheduled to reopen on Friday as per usual.

The spill occurred at approximately 11:25 a.m. in a chemistry prep room between two classrooms on the school's second level. The teacher immediately evacuated the adjacent classrooms, and the surrounding areas of the floor. Following Community High School District #155 procedures, the Crystal Lake Fire Department was called in to evaluate the situation and assess any potential danger. Prior to the CLFD's arrival, the building's HVAC was shutdown to avoid spreading the chemical vapors, and the immediate area surrounding the classroom was ventilated. The CLFD further isolated and ventilated the area, evacuating the school's third floor above the affected classrooms.

To minimize the potential for exposure, students in other areas of the school remained on "Code Yellow Lockdown," staying in the classes they were in at the time of the spill instead of transitioning to their next class. Coincidentally, the day was scheduled as an early release day, and students remained on lockdown until the scheduled end of the day at 12:53 p.m.

- more -

## MINOR SPILL DISRUPTS PRAIRIE RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL 2

As a precaution, a professional chemical services company will be brought in to clean up the spill site. The two chemicals spilled are Acetic Anhydride and Carbon Disulfide. In each case, approximately one pint of each was spilled.

# # #