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WAYLAND FIRE CAPTAIN ANDREW HOLLAND

Roofs collapse at 2 Mass. schools

Officials blame snowpack, rain

By Emma Stickgold
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

The roofs of two elementary schools buckled under the weight of last week's snow and this week-end's heavy rains, forcing officials to close the Claypit Hill Elementary School in Wayland and the Sunderland Elementary School in Sunderland. No one was injured in either incident.

The collapse over a third-grade classroom at the Sunderland school, which is believed to have occurred Saturday between 6:30 and 9 a.m., caused extensive damage to that classroom, breaking water pipes and sending water throughout the school, according to Frontier Regional School District Superintendent Regina Nash.

Students at the Sunderland school were scheduled to return from winter break today, however Nash said the 370-student school will probably remain closed at least until Wednesday.

"We're going to call the truss manufacturer and have a third-party engineer come in and take a look at it," Sunderland building inspector Erik Wight said.



AP PHOTO

Firefighters and workers removed snow from the roof of the Sunderland Elementary School Saturday after a large section of the roof collapsed into a third-grade classroom.

Meanwhile, Wayland officials expressed relief that no classrooms were damaged at the Claypit Hill Elementary School, where the roof over the school's gymnasium collapsed.

"They're lucky here that it was the gymnasium, so there is not as

much collateral damage," Wayland Fire Captain Andrew Holland said yesterday.

Officials were alerted to the damage yesterday morning around 9 a.m.

"Common sense tells you it's the snow and rain," Holland said.

Superintendent Gary Burton said he hoped the school would be reopened tomorrow.

Material from the Associated Press was used in this report.



SCHOOLS

DR. PAIGE SCHOOL, West Newbury, MA

Architect: Sava Assoc., Newburyport, MA

Contractor: Cheviot Corp., Needham Heights, MA

BAKERSFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Bakersfield, VT

Architect: Benjamin Stein Architect, Burlington, VT

Contractor: K.R. Adams, Milton, VT

CHARLOTTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Charlotte, VT

Architect: Freeman, French, Freeman, Burlington, VT

Contractor: Wright & Morrissey Inc., Burlington, VT

NEWTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Strafford, VT

Architect: Metz & Thornton, Lyme, NH

Contractor: Trumbull-Nelson Const. Inc., Hanover, NH

GUILFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Guilford, VT

Architect: Gillen, Kuhn, Riddle, and Gray, Amherst, MA

Contractor: Clark Contractors Inc., Brattleboro, VT

SHEFFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL, Turners Falls, MA

Architect: The Clover Group, Albany, NY

Contractor: Barry, Bette & Led Duke Inc., Albany, NY

SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, Sunderland, MA

Architect: Earl Flansburgh Assoc., Boston, MA

Contractor: A.R. Green & Son Inc., Holyoke, MA

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE SCHOOL, Brattleboro, VT

Architect: None

Contractor: Clark Construction, Brattleboro, VT

THE WALDORF SCHOOL, Hadley, MA

Architect: Charles Rose, Cambridge, MA

Contractor: Hoogstraten Builders Inc., Williamsburg, MA

NEWTON STREET SCHOOL, Greenfield, MA

Architect: Margo Jones Arch., Greenfield, MA

Contractor: A.R. Green & Sons, Holyoke, MA

BUKER SCHOOL, Hamilton, MA

Architect: Mount Vernon Group, Inc., Winchester, MA

Contractor: P & H General Cont., Everett, MA