

## STORY

~~Ad~~ Astra High will be closed next week, ~~February 28-Mar 4~~ as repair crews repair the "problem

~~areas~~ in the roof of the main building which collapsed ~~due to~~ the weight of 2 feet of snow from a ~~freak February snowstorm~~ on Wednesday.

Principal Hudnall Browne said the roof collapsed in two places and that snow was sent cascading into

Mr. Wyeth's art room, Mrs. Thistlebottom's English room, and Mr. McCullough's American History

room. All those rooms are on the first floor of the three story school building that was built in 1958.

~~Browne said damages were being assessed and that he didn't as of now have an estimate of~~

~~clean-up costs.~~ He estimated that the costs could run into the "10's of thousands of dollars."

"All this is just mind-boggling," said Browne. "We've got roofers making temporary patches to the

roof and clean-up crews literally digging snow out of classrooms. This is a 76 year old building, so I

don't know what this means structurally. I wish I had answers."

Browne had one answer: School will resume on Monday March 7th 2012 regardless of the

work needed on the building Browne said. "Even if we have to have classes at my house, we'll have

classes on that Monday," said Browne.

The Aspera Board of Education (A.B.E.) will be meeting in emergency session tonight. They will

discuss how much emergency funding can be made available immediately on an emergency basis to

the school board president Ed Eucate said.

(or raise question. Quote says building is 76 year old. That would mean 1935.)



(echo quote)

~~"We will be deciding how much funding we can provide now on an emergency basis at the present~~

~~moment," Eucate said.~~ "This is a monumental problem that has to be dealt with immediately," <sup>sa</sup> Eucate said.

~~Officials apparently are looking into claims of faulty and shoddy work that Summus Roofing and repair did earlier this year that most likely lead to the roof collapse. They apparently inadvertently broke the joists that weakened the roof and never reported the joist incident to school officials.~~ <sup>NO sources. potential libel</sup>

<sup>not</sup> Mrs. Thistlebottom said teachers had been allowed back to their classrooms. "All of this semester's assignments are there in the classroom as well as grades also in the classroom," Thistlebottom said. "If I can't salvage things in the classroom, students may have to redo a months worth of work. I'm also worried about my autographed copy of The Winter of Our Discontent I won't know anything until I can see the room."

<sup>also</sup> Student's were too worried too about what and whether their work was damaged in classrooms and third floor lockers. Senior James Whistler said he was relieved that he had taken home an oil portrait he was working on of his mother. "If I hadn't taken it home and had Mom pose for me, it would of been lost," <sup>have</sup> he said.

<sup>Aspera's third</sup> This is ~~one of the second~~ worst snowstorms <sup>on record</sup> Aspera has ever experienced <sup>(Source?)</sup> on record up to this point.

The 25 inches on Wednesday was exceeded only by the 29 inches recorded on April 1, 1898 and the 32 inches of the "white stuff" found on the ground on January 8th of 1965.