

Abatement to continue at old Galion High School

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Abatement of the former Galion High School building on North Union Street will continue despite a law suit filed this week to stop the abatement and expected demolition of the building. The suit was filed Monday in Crawford County Common Pleas Court by plaintiffs Steven A. Kemle, Carole Kemle, Martha J. Palmer and David E. Smith. The suit names Galion City School District superintendent Kathy Jenney, treasurer Linda Kidwell and board members Marge McCumber, Bob Zeisler, Carl Stough, George McElligott, and

Dennis Long as defendants.

According to a news release issued late yesterday afternoon by the district, the plaintiffs in the lawsuit have withdrawn their request for a temporary restraining order which would have halted the abatement which began Jan. 7. A hearing set for yesterday afternoon to determine if a temporary restraining order would be put in place was postponed.

In the release issued by Jenney on behalf of the defendants it is stated the TRO request was withdrawn based on an agreement between the two parties. According to the release, the agreement allows the current asbestos abatement contract to go forward.

"The Galion City School District agreed to withhold executing any demolition contract until after the court rules on the preliminary injunction," the release reads.

A hearing has been set for Feb. 19 at 10a.m.

"The board of education is pleased with this agreement. This does not change any action by the board of education nor does it affect the continuation of the asbestos abatement contract," Jenney said in the release. "Further the board is confident its actions and resolutions regarding the demolition of the old high school were in compliance with state law."