

# Cleanup continues

**PCI could open again as early as Wednesday**

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An army of labourers descended on Parkside Collegiate Institute over the weekend to continue restoration work necessitated by a fire last week.

While the school sign board read "Closed until Further Notice" to motorists passing on Sunset Drive, inside people armed with mops, pails, wash cloths and sponges were trying to wipe down every surface.

In classrooms, staff with Winmar Restoration were wiping down items like desks and computer keyboards.

A convoy of portable fans stood ready while heavy plastic covered the doors to the cafeteria where some of the heaviest damage was believed to be.

Mark Robinson, a supervisor with Winmar, said staff were using fans to suck smoky air from fire-damaged areas and not allow it to circulate to any other part of the school.

In turn, the school's air was being replaced with fresh outside air while the ductwork remained non-operational for now until trades repair it this week.

"We are on schedule," he said confidently. Projections are the school will re-open for teachers and students on Wednesday.

Robinson said up to 300 labourers were arriving by bus in shifts from Guelph, London, Brantford and Kitchener-Waterloo to work on the cleanup from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. After that, trades specialists work on the school, addressing issues like wiring and heating and ventilation.

"We have replaced every ceiling tile in the school," he said, referring to a labourious chore all on its own.

While labourers worked inside, senior administration at the school met with Thames Valley School Board officials Saturday, but were not available for media interviews.



Staff from Winmar Restoration mop floors and wash lockers Saturday as part of cleanup at Parkside Collegiate Institute after a fire there last week. (T-J photo)



Joy Paul, of Winmar Restoration, wipes down computers Saturday in a classroom at Parkside Collegiate Institute as part of a cleanup after a fire last week. Hundreds of labourers worked over the weekend cleaning at Parkside. (T-J photo)

**Parkside Collegiate Institute**  
**St. Thomas Ontario**

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