

10.21 REPORTING HAZARDS

The Board is concerned with the safety of students and staff and, therefore, complies with all Federal and State laws and regulations to protect students and staff from hazards that may result from industrial accidents or from the presence of asbestos materials and products or conditions identified by the State Board of Health as injurious to health and safety.

A. Toxic Hazards

Toxic hazards exist in chemicals and other substances used in the school setting such as in laboratories, science classrooms, kitchens and in the cleaning of rooms and equipment.

The Superintendent appoints an employee to serve as the District's Toxic Hazard Preparedness (THP) officer. The THP officer:

1. identifies potential sources of toxic hazards in cooperation with material suppliers who supply the THP officer with material safety data sheets (MSDS);
2. ensures that all incoming materials, including portable containers, are properly labeled with the identity of the chemical, the hazard warning and the name and address of the manufacturer or responsible party;
3. maintains a current file of MSDS for hazardous material present on District property;
4. designs and implements a written communication program which: lists hazardous materials present on District property; details the methods used to inform staff and students of the hazards and describes the methods used to inform contractors and their employees of any hazardous substances to which they may be exposed and of any corrective measures to be employed;
5. conducts a training program for all District employees to include such topics as detection of hazards, explanation of the health hazards to which they could be exposed in their work environment and the District's plan for communication, labeling, etc. and
6. establishes and maintains accurate records for each employee at risk for occupational exposure including name, social security number, hepatitis B vaccine status, results of exams, medical testing and follow-up procedures for exposure incidents and other information provided by and to health care professionals.

In fulfilling these responsibilities, the THP officer may enlist the aid of county and municipal authorities and others knowledgeable about potential toxic hazards.

B. Asbestos Hazards

In its efforts to comply with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, the Public Employment Risk Reduction Act and the Asbestos Abatement Contractors Licensing Act, the Board recognizes its responsibility to:

1. inspect all District buildings for the existence of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials;
2. take appropriate action based on the inspections;
3. establish a program for dealing with friable asbestos, if found;
4. maintain a program of periodic surveillance and inspection of facilities or equipment containing asbestos and
5. comply with EPA regulations governing the transportation and disposal of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials.

The Superintendent appoints a person to develop and implement the District's Asbestos-Management Program which ensures proper compliance with Federal and State law and the appropriate instruction of staff and students.

The Superintendent also ensures that, when conducting asbestos abatement projects, each contractor employed by the District is licensed pursuant to the Asbestos Abatement Contractors Licensing Act.

C. Occupational Exposure Training

All employees with occupational exposure are required to participate in a training program at the time of their initial assignment to tasks where occupational exposure may occur.

Follow-up training for employees is provided one year after their initial training. Additional training is provided when changes such as modification of tasks and procedures or institution of new tasks and procedures affect employees' occupational exposure.

A record of attendance at occupational exposure training is completed and maintained by the THP officer following each training session. These records are maintained for three years from the date of the training.

D. Records Availability

All records required to be maintained are made available upon request for examination and copying by the employee, employee representatives and under the provisions of PERRA. Medical records, however, are not made available to employee representatives or other persons without written consent of the

employee.

E. Other Conditions Injurious to the Safety or Health of Building Occupants

In addition to the reporting of toxic hazards, the Board directs the Superintendent/designee to comply with all board of health inspections, as required by OAC 3701-54, to ensure that conditions injurious to the safety or health of persons on District property are minimized.

During a board of health inspection, each building principal/designee provides: access to the building and grounds at any time during regular school hours; a record of inspections of the school grounds and buildings for dangerous and recalled products that have been identified by the State Board of Health; any records or other information the board of health considers necessary to evaluate the health and safety of the school and a representative who accompanies the sanitarian during the course of the inspection, with advance notice from the board of health and upon request of the sanitarian.

If a report is submitted to the board of health following a school inspection, the Superintendent/designee develops and submits a written plan for abatement of conditions identified by the inspection report. The plan of abatement is submitted within 60 days of receipt of the inspection report.

The Superintendent/designee provides written notification to the board of health when abatement, as outlined in the plan, has been completed.

Each building is surveyed quarterly, by a representative appointed by the Superintendent/designee, for dangerous products and conditions that have identified in notices from the board of health. All dangerous products or conditions found on school grounds or within school buildings are abated or controlled, immediately or within 30 days of receipt of the notice from the board of health. Any action taken is documented on the board of health transmittal form. Completed transmittal forms are retained in a central location for verification by board of health inspectors.

F. Liability Disclaimer

Nothing in this policy should be construed in any way as an assumption of liability by the Board for any death, injury or illness that is the consequence of an accident or equipment failure or negligent or deliberate act beyond the control of the Board or its officers and employees.

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