

Public School Asbestos Abatement and Management Program

All elementary and secondary schools in the nation are required to complete periodic stringent inspections and management plans for all asbestos-containing building materials. Caledonia Area Public Schools are in full compliance with this requirement and are following the spirit as well as the letter of the law. As a matter of policy, the District shall continue to maintain a safe and healthful environment for our community's youth and employees.

All district owned school buildings were initially inspected to identify potential hazards. Asbestos-containing building materials were either removed or sealed to prevent the release of asbestos fibers into the air. In addition, an asbestos management program was developed to ensure an on-going safe environment with a walk-through inspection every six months of known asbestos-containing building materials and a complete reinspection by EPA accredited inspectors every three years.

A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan, detailing the location of asbestos-containing building materials and abatement measures completed, is available for review in the District office by district residents, employees and short-term workers performing building repairs, construction or equipment installations. Questions related to the plan should be directed to Superintendent of Schools at 725-3389.

Notice Concerning Use of Pest Control Materials

Our district utilizes a licensed, professional pest control service firm for the prevention and control of rodents, insects, and other pests in and around the district's buildings. Their program consists of:

1. Inspection and monitoring to determine whether pests are present and whether any treatment is needed;
2. Recommendations for maintenance and sanitation to help eliminate pests without the need for pest control materials;
3. Utilization of non-chemical measures such as traps, caulking and screening; and
4. Application of EPA registered pest control materials when needed.

Pests can sting, bite, cause contamination, damage property, and spread disease; therefore, we must prevent and control them. The long-term health effects on children from the application of such pest control materials, or the class of materials to which they belong, may not be fully understood. All pest control materials are chosen and applied according to label directions per Federal Law.

An estimated schedule of interior pest control inspections and possible treatments is available for review or copying at each school office. A similar estimated schedule is available for application of herbicides and other materials to school grounds. Parents of students may request to receive, at their expense, prior to notification of any application of a pest control material, should such an application be deemed necessary on a day different from the days specified in the schedule.

Model Indoor Air Quality Parent Notification

Independent School District No. 299 has in place a program to monitor and improve indoor air quality at our school. The Caledonia Public School District considers no objective more important than providing its employees, students, and visitors a healthy, safe environment. Because we believe that indoor air quality is essential to this objective, we are sending this notification to inform parents, students, and staff of our program to monitor and improve indoor air quality.

As part of the program implementation, an Indoor Air Quality Coordinator has been appointed. An annual walk-through will be performed by the Coordinator to evaluate school facilities for obvious water intrusion, ventilation failures, structural problems, overall cleanliness, and the status of the O&M program.

In that we have adopted the EPA's Tools for Schools, the guidelines contained therein will be used to evaluate all classrooms, ventilation systems, and building maintenance issues.

The District's response to parental concerns will be timely and direct. Parent's questions are always welcome. If a concern would arise, we ask the parent to contact, Bill Woolley, Indoor Air Quality Coordinator. The Coordinator will be able to assist in evaluating the child's home or other out of the school situation. Additional information is available to parents about school facility construction; maintenance, housekeeping practices, chemicals used, mold and HVAC related information, and other activities that may contribute to a child's symptoms.

The Caledonia School District accepts the responsibility of monitoring indoor air quality and has conducted a survey of the mechanical ventilation rate of each occupied space in the district.

The Caledonia School District is proud to be taking a leadership role in providing safe, comfortable, and productive environment for our students and staff so that we achieve our core mission: educating students. Our school will continue to follow EPA guidance to improve our indoor air quality by preventing as many problems as possible.

If you would have any questions or concerns about this or any other health and safety program, please contact us at 507-725-3316.