

Non-Instructional Operations

Safety Compliance Programs

The Board of Education shall promote and comply with all Occupational Safety and Health and environmental regulations to the maximum extent possible in a school setting. The Superintendent shall ensure that the following programs are in place and maintained, and that appropriate training be provided to personnel.

Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)

- Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires schools to conduct initial and periodic inspections, sample suspect asbestos containing building materials, develop and implement response action plans, and maintain an Asbestos Management Plan (AMP) for each building.
- Chemical Hygiene and Lab Safety requires schools to develop and implement a Chemical Hygiene Plan that includes work practices, procedures and policies to ensure protection from hazardous chemicals. The Science Department chair shall be designated the Chemical Hygiene Officer.
- Confined Spaces – The district has no “permit required” confined spaces.
- Hazardous Materials Communication governs the purchase, storage, handling, transportation and disposal of hazardous materials for school facilities and operations including instructional areas. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) shall be required and maintained for all applicable materials used in the facilities. District personnel shall be encouraged to substitute non-hazardous materials for hazardous substances to the extent possible and to minimize the quantities of hazardous substances stored on school property.
- “Lockout/Tagout” requires the development of a written energy control program to reduce the possibility of injury to personnel working on or near machinery or equipment that could cause an unexpected release of residual energy. Lockout/tagout devices shall be provided to employees when necessary.
- Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens, HIV and Hepatitis B requires schools to develop an exposure control plan that includes tasks, procedures, and job classifications where occupational exposure to blood may occur. The plan shall assess and evaluate employee exposure for those employees who, as a required job responsibility, could “reasonably anticipate” exposure to blood or other bodily fluids. The district shall offer Hepatitis B vaccinations to all such employees at no cost, as well as lab tests for employees exposed to blood. Employees declining vaccination shall be required to sign a declination form.
- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) shall be provided, where hazardous conditions may be encountered. Situations which might require the use of PPE shall be avoided to the maximum extent possible.

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- Respiratory Protection requires an assessment of the facilities to determine if exposures to hazardous airborne contaminants exceed the OSHA permissible exposure limits (PELs). Specialized training and medical qualification are required for the use of respirators; therefore, personnel shall not engage in activities which would require such equipment.

Environmental Regulations

- Indoor air quality shall be documented and assessed periodically and problem situations that require remediation shall be identified, and documented and addressed.
- Lead contamination shall be assessed via periodic tests of school drinking water, as required by law.
- The public water supply shall be tested periodically as required by the Department of Environmental Protection, Water Supply Section.
- Pesticides and herbicides shall only be applied by properly licensed and training personnel, as required.
- Periodic inspections of playground surfaces and playground equipment shall be conducted to ensure adequate protection and to reduce the risk of injury and accidents.
- Participation in voluntary radon testing programs shall be done, periodically and results addressed.
- Underground storage tanks shall be protected against spills and overflows.

All necessary remedial action shall be taken as required by law.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

Sec. 19a-329 through Sec. 19a-333
The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response
Act of 1986 (AHERA)

Policy Adopted: 9/19/01

BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Brookfield, Connecticut