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SECTION: PROPERTY
TITLE: INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT
ADOPTED:
REVISED:

717. INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

1. Purpose

The regular use of pesticides to control pests may increase the risk of individual health difficulties, and they may be harmful to property and the environment. To reduce the use of pesticides and to control structural and landscape pests in district facilities and upon district property, the district shall incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures. These procedures promote prevention rather than remediation. IPM will assist the district in meeting its goal to provide students, employees, and the public with clean, healthy and safe facilities. It will involve them, in the pest control process, by utilizing physical, mechanical, cultural, biological, and educational tactics to control pests. Only after these methods have been fully utilized or if their use is considered ineffective to resolve pest infestation or damage will the district then employ the use of the least harmful pesticide.

Pesticides will be carefully evaluated before they are used, and they will only be used after other non-toxic methods have been considered.

2. Definitions

Pests include insects, rodents, fungi, and undesirable plant species requiring control to maintain clean, healthy, and safe facilities. A pesticide is a substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating a pest. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a program used to manage pest infestation or damage through economical means which present the least risk of individual health difficulties and reduced harm to property and the environment.

3. Delegation of Responsibility

The Director of Buildings and Grounds, or in his absence, the Assistant Director of Buildings and Grounds shall serve as the school district's IPM Coordinator. The Board directs the IPM Coordinator to assist school personnel in implementing IPM procedures. This policy and its procedures shall serve as the school district's Integrated Pest Management Plan.

4. Procedures

1. IPM shall include the education of employees and students about IPM procedures and the basic tenets of this pest management system.
2. Employees not authorized to use pesticides in or upon district facilities or property shall not introduce pesticides, including over-the-counter pest control materials, in or upon district facilities or property.
3. Employees shall be educated about actions they should take to maintain an environment which prevents the propagation of pests.
4. Pest surveillance forms shall be maintained by custodial and maintenance personnel to identify pest problems and verify the need for pest control.

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5. School administrators shall receive and report pest problems to their head custodians.
6. The most environmentally safe mix of tactics shall be used to suppress pest infestations. Pesticides shall only be used when adequate control cannot be achieved with alternate methods of treatment.
7. Pesticide use shall include the least hazardous material, precise application, and the minimum quantity of material necessary to achieve control.
8. Pesticide application shall be made only at the conclusion of the scheduled school week and at a time when the facility is not occupied.
9. With the exception of an emergency, as determined by the Director or Assistant Director of Buildings and Grounds, pest control activities shall not interfere with school activities, including those activities scheduled at the conclusion of a scheduled school week.
10. Annually, Principals shall notify students' parents/guardians, that they will be notified in advance of any pesticide application. Parents/guardians will be permitted to request enrollment in a registry of individuals to be notified in advance of an emergency pesticide application. Those included in the registry will receive notice of any emergency application via telephone.
11. Notification of the scheduled use of a pesticide in or upon a school district building or property shall be made to the building's employees, students and the parents/guardians of the students at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the use. A sign bearing notification of a pesticide treatment will be posted in the Main Office/visitor receiving area of a school district facility or at the main entrance to school district property which does not include a school or school district offices for at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to a planned treatment and at least forty-eight (48) hours following the planned treatment.

An Allentown School District property owner, whose name appears on the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Hypersensitivity Registry, or who requests in writing a desire to be notified, and whose property is adjacent to or across the street from a school district building or property scheduled to receive a pesticide treatment, shall receive notification at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the scheduled pesticide's use.

In the event of an emergency, as determined by the Director or Assistant Director of Buildings and Grounds, notification shall be made as soon as possible, prior to the application of the pesticide.
12. All pest control contractors or district personnel involved in pesticide applications in the district shall be certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.
13. If pesticides are stored in district facilities they shall be stored in locked facilities which are not customarily accessible to students.
14. Records shall be maintained of all pesticide applications. These records shall be kept on file for three (3) years.