

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

The Board of Directors recognizes its responsibility relative to student, staff, and visitor health and safety and to the need for the development of a comprehensive program designed to provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment on school property and at school-sponsored activities. To achieve this, the Board intends for the Academy to take advantage of the most current, proven technologies in the fields of health, safety, and environmental sciences.

## ***Student, Employee, and Visitor Health and Safety***

The **Principal or Principal Designee** shall develop and implement a positive, proactive environmental health and safety program that integrates responsibilities within the Academy and promotes and incorporates the following:

- A. Procedures that describe a hazard identification and abatement program requiring the following: periodic inspection of school facilities; the implementation of immediate and programmed corrective actions, when deemed necessary by such inspections; and the development of a Academy-wide hazard reporting procedure that enables employee/parent/school community participation. This program should also provide procedures for identifying and responding to hazards created by outside entities, inspecting activities of contractors, and inspecting new facilities to determine if appropriate requirements for environmental health and safety have been met.
- B. Procedures that promote environmental health and safety awareness among employees, students, parents and community. These procedures shall include, but not be limited to, the establishment of Academy safety committees and the establishment of a program of regular communication with students, employees, and parents about pertinent safety and health issues through available mediums in the Academy.
- C. Procedures that address the safety and health of students during transportation to the school, in the school, on school property, and during participation in school-related activities. These procedures shall include, but not be limited to, promoting bus safety for students; assessing the safety of school traffic patterns; operating school clinics; administering medication and medical treatment; promoting laboratory and shop safety; promoting safety in sports and other outdoor activities; inspecting playground equipment and promoting safety on playgrounds; and assessing environmental exposure.
- D. Procedures that relate to employees' health and safety issues, including, but not limited to, provision of work areas free from recognized hazards; OSHA-related programs required by Federal and State law (e.g., employee safety and health training and training in hazard recognition); and definition of employer and employee responsibilities and expectations related to health and safety.
- E. Procedures that establish a system for reporting and investigating accidents, including identification of root causes, determination of remedial and programmed

corrective actions, and communication about accidents to employees, parents and members of the Academy community.

F. Procedures that detail plans for foreseeable emergencies and fire prevention.

### ***Phase-out/Banned Products***

The **Principal or Principal Designee** shall immediately ban the use, on Board property, of any chemicals, insecticides, or other materials, which the Federal government is phasing out and/or banning by a certain date.

### **A. *Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ)***

The Board recognizes that excessive moisture levels within the Academy can lead to conditions optimum for the development of biological contaminants (e.g., mold and fungi on building surfaces). The Board further recognizes the presence of these contaminants can be harmful on contact with respiratory tissue.

Contributing factors to excessive moisture levels include the following:

- B. roof leaks;
- C. structural defects in the building;
- D. improperly controlled humidity levels;
- E. faulty HVAC systems.

As preventive measures, the Academy shall (if not under terms of lease) or request the landlord (if under terms of lease) complete the following:

- A. address prevention of water intrusion as a priority IEQ issue and implement strategies toward its elimination;
- B. maintain environmental conditions in occupied areas in compliance with applicable regulations and strive to conform to industry standards;
- C. implement a preventative maintenance program for HVAC systems that includes, but is not be limited to, periodic filter replacement; inspection; cleaning and disinfecting processes; and procedures to eliminate the contribution to indoor air quality problems caused by this equipment;
- D. implement a system to ensure materials used (and purchased for use) in the construction, furnishing and maintenance (including cleaning), do not contribute to health hazards for employees and students by degrading the quality of indoor air. In addition, activities that create indoor air quality health hazards shall not be permitted.

In addition, the **Principal or Principal Designee** shall develop Administrative Procedures for properly monitoring factors that contribute to excessive moisture and for developing mitigation plans when, and if, problems with IEQ are identified.

### ***Diesel Exhaust and School Bus Idling***

In accordance with the Environment Protection Agency's initiative to reduce pollution caused by buses on school property, the Board will take the recommended steps to reduce the negative

effects of diesel exhaust on indoor and outdoor air quality on school campuses, including, but not limited to, reducing bus idling time and reinforcing smart driving practices.

The **Principal or Principal Designee** shall develop the Administrative Procedures necessary to establish these practices in the Academy.

***Pollution Control and Prevention***

In an effort to comply with environmental policy and applicable regulations, the Academy shall develop and implement procedures designed to prevent air and water pollution; minimize or eliminate waste streams, where possible; and identify possible sources of air and water pollution.