

**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY**

The Governing Board recognizes its obligation to provide a safe and healthy environment at school facilities for students, staff, and community members. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly assess school facilities to identify environmental health risks. He/she shall establish a comprehensive plan to prevent and/or mitigate environmental hazards based on a consideration of the proven effectiveness of various options, anticipated short-term and long-term costs and/or savings to the district, and the potential impact on staff attendance, student attendance, and student achievement.

*(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)*  
*(cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)*  
*(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)*  
*(cf. 3516.3 - Earthquake Emergency Procedure System)*  
*(cf. 3517 - Facilities Inspection)*  
*(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)*  
*(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)*  
*(cf. 5142 - Safety)*  
*(cf. 7111 - Evaluating Existing Buildings)*

Strategies addressed in the district's plan shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

1. Limiting outdoor activities when necessary due to poor outdoor air quality, including excessive smog, smoke, or ozone, or when ultraviolet radiation levels indicate a high risk of harm

*(cf. 3516.5 - Emergency Schedules)*  
*(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)*  
*(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)*

2. Reducing exposure to diesel exhaust and other air contaminants by limiting unnecessary idling of school buses and other commercial motor vehicles

*(cf. 3540 - Transportation)*  
*(cf. 3541.1 - Transportation for School-Related Trips)*  
*(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)*

3. Minimizing exposure to lead in paint, soil, and drinking water
4. Inspecting facilities for naturally occurring asbestos and asbestos-containing building materials that pose a health hazard due to damage or deterioration and safely removing, encapsulating, enclosing, or repairing such materials
5. Ensuring the proper storage, use, and disposal of potentially hazardous substances

*(cf. 3514.1 - Hazardous Substances)*  
*(cf. 6161.3 - Toxic Art Supplies)*

**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY** (continued)

6. Ensuring the use of effective least toxic pest management practices

*(cf. 3514.2 - Integrated Pest Management)*

7. Instituting a food safety program for the storage, preparation, delivery, and service of school meals in order to reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses

*(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)*

In developing strategies to promote healthy school environments, the Superintendent or designee may consult and collaborate with local environmental protection agencies, health agencies, and other community organizations.

*(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*

The Superintendent or designee shall provide the district's maintenance and facilities staff, bus drivers, food services staff, teachers, and other staff as appropriate with professional development regarding their responsibilities in implementing strategies to improve and maintain environmental safety at the schools.

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)*

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the Board, staff, parents/guardians, students, and/or governmental agencies, as appropriate, if an environmental hazard is discovered at a school site. The notification shall provide information about the district's actions to remedy the hazard and may recommend health screening of staff and students.

*(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)*

*Legal Reference: (see next page)*

**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY (continued)**

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

17002 Definition of "good repair"

17070.75 Facilities inspection

17582 Deferred maintenance fund

17590 Asbestos abatement fund

17608-17613 Healthy Schools Act of 2000, least toxic pest management practices

32080-32081 Carbon monoxide devices

32240-32245 Lead-Safe Schools Protection Act

48980.3 Notification of pesticides

49410-49410.7 Asbestos materials containment or removal

FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL CODE

11401-12408 Pest control operations and agricultural chemicals

13180-13188 Healthy Schools Act of 2000, least toxic pest management practices

GOVERNMENT CODE

3543.2 Scope of representation; right to negotiate safety conditions

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

105400-105430 Indoor environmental quality

113700-114437 California Retail Food Code, sanitation and safety requirements

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

14010 Standards for school site selection

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

337-339 Hazardous substances list

340-340.2 Occupational safety and health, rights of employees

1528-1533 Construction safety orders; exposure to hazards

5139-5223 Control of hazardous substances

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13

2025 Retrofitting of diesel school buses

2480 Vehicle idling

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

35001-36100 Lead abatement services

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 22

64670-64679 Lead and copper in drinking water

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 7

136-136y Use of pesticides

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 15

2601-2629 Control of toxic substances

2641-2656 Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1758 Food safety and inspections

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 40

141.1-141.723 Drinking water standards

745.61-745.339 Lead-based paint standards

763.80-763.99 Asbestos-containing materials in schools

763.120-763.123 Asbestos worker protections

*Management Resources: (see next page)*

## ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY (continued)

### *Management Resources:*

#### CSBA PUBLICATIONS

*Indoor Air Quality: Governing Board Actions for Creating Healthy School Environments, Policy Brief, July 2008*

*Asthma Management in the Schools, Policy Brief, March 2008*

*Food Safety Requirements, Fact Sheet, October 2007*

*Sun Safety in Schools, Policy Brief, July 2006*

#### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

*School Site Selection and Approval Guide, 2000*

*Indoor Air Quality, A Guide for Educators, 1995*

#### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

*Report to the Legislature: Lead Hazards in California's Public Elementary Schools and Child Care Facilities, April 1998*

#### U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY PUBLICATIONS

*Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools, rev. 2007*

*Healthy School Environments Assessment Tool, 2007*

*The ABCs of Asbestos in Schools, rev. August 2003*

*Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings, March 2001*

*How to Manage Asbestos in School Buildings: AHERA Designated Person's Self-Study Guide, 1996*

#### WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

AirNow: <http://www.airnow.gov>

American Association of School Administrators: <http://www.aasa.org>

California Air Resources Board: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>

California Department of Education, Health and Safety: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/fa/hs>

California Department of Pesticide Regulation: <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov>

California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>

California Indoor Air Quality Program: <http://www.cal-iaq.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Consumer Product Safety Commission: <http://www.cpsc.gov>

National Center for Environmental Health: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh>

Occupational Safety and Health Administration: <http://www.osha.gov>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: <http://www.epa.gov>

**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY**

The Superintendent may designate and train one or more employees to oversee and coordinate the district's environmental safety program(s). The responsibilities of the coordinator(s) shall include, but are not limited to, overseeing assessments of district facilities, recommending strategies for the prevention and mitigation of environmental health risks, ensuring effective implementation of environmental safety strategies, and reporting to the Superintendent regarding the district's progress in addressing environmental safety concerns.

*(cf. 3510 - Green School Operations)*  
*(cf. 3511 - Energy and Water Management)*  
*(cf. 3517 - Facilities Inspection)*  
*(cf. 4157/4257/4357 - Employee Safety)*  
*(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)*  
*(cf. 5142 - Safety)*  
*(cf. 7111 - Evaluating Existing Buildings)*  
*(cf. 7150 - Site Selection and Development)*

**Indoor Air Quality**

In order to provide proper ventilation, humidity, and temperature in school facilities and to reduce indoor air contaminants, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the following strategies are implemented:

1. Staff shall ensure that airflow is not obstructed by the blocking of ventilators with posters, furniture, books, or other obstacles.
2. School facilities shall be regularly inspected for water damage, spills, leaks in plumbing and roofs, poor drainage, and improper ventilation so as to preclude the buildup of mold and mildew. Wet building materials and furnishings shall be dried within 48 hours if possible to prevent mold growth. When evidence of mold or mildew is found, maintenance staff shall locate and repair the source of water intrusion and remove or clean moldy materials.
3. Least toxic pest management practices shall be used to control and manage pests at school sites.

*(cf. 3514.2 - Integrated Pest Management)*

4. In any new school construction, and in all existing schools when feasible, the Superintendent or designee shall install a carbon monoxide detector in each school building that contains a fossil fuel burning furnace. The device shall be placed in close proximity to the furnace in order to accurately detect any leakage of carbon monoxide.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY** (continued)

5. Schedules and practices for routine housekeeping and maintenance shall be designed to effectively reduce levels of dust, dirt, and debris. Plain water, soap and water, or low-emission cleaning products shall be used whenever possible. Aerosols, including air fresheners and other products containing ozone, shall be avoided to the extent possible.

*(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)*

6. Painting of school facilities and maintenance or repair duties that require the use of potentially harmful substances shall be limited to those times when school is not in session. Following any such activity, the facility shall be properly ventilated with adequate time allowed prior to reopening for use by any person.
7. Paints, adhesives, and solvents shall be used and stored in well-ventilated areas. These items shall be purchased in small quantities to avoid storage exposure.

*(cf. 3514.1 - Hazardous Substances)*

*(cf. 6161.3 - Toxic Art Supplies)*

8. To the extent possible, printing and duplicating equipment that may generate indoor air pollutants, such as methyl alcohol or ammonia, shall be placed in locations that are well ventilated and not frequented by students and staff.
9. The district's tobacco-free schools policy shall be consistently enforced in order to reduce the health risks caused by second-hand smoke.

*(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)*

10. Staff and students shall be asked to refrain from bringing common irritants such as furred or feathered animals, stuffed toys that may collect dust mites, scented candles, incense, or air fresheners and from using perfume or cologne, scented lotion or hair spray, nail polish or nail polish remover, or other personal care products that are not fragrance-free in classrooms or other enclosed areas or buildings.

*(cf. 6163.2 - Animals at School)*

**Outdoor Air Quality**

The Superintendent or designee may monitor local health advisories and outdoor air quality alerts, including forecasts of ozone levels, particle pollution, and/or ultraviolet radiation levels.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY (continued)**

Whenever these measures indicate a significant health risk, the Superintendent or designee shall communicate with each principal so that outdoor activities, especially those requiring prolonged or heavy exertion, may be avoided, limited in duration, or modified as necessary for all persons or for persons who may be particularly susceptible to the health risk involved.

*(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)*

*(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)*

*(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)*

*(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)*

### **Vehicle Emissions**

In order to reduce public exposure to toxic air contaminants, school bus drivers and other drivers of commercial motor vehicles shall limit unnecessary idling of vehicles at or near schools in accordance with 13 CCR 2480.

*(cf. 3540 - Transportation)*

*(cf. 3541.1 - Transportation for School-Related Trips)*

*(cf. 3542 - School Bus Drivers)*

Any diesel-fueled school bus with a gross vehicle weight rating over 14,000 pounds manufactured on or after April 1, 1977 shall be equipped with a particulate filter designed to reduce particulate matter emissions, oxides of nitrogen emissions, and other pollutants. (13 CCR 2025)

### **Drinking Water**

Drinking fountains in district schools shall be regularly cleaned and maintained to avoid the presence of dirt, mold, or other impurities or health concerns.

### **Asbestos Management**

The Superintendent may designate an employee who shall ensure that the district's responsibilities related to asbestos inspection and abatement are implemented in accordance with federal and state regulations. This employee shall receive adequate training to perform these duties, including, as necessary, training on the health effects of asbestos; detection, identification, and assessment of asbestos-containing materials; options for controlling asbestos-containing building materials; and relevant federal and state regulations. (40 CFR 763.84)

*(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)*

The designated employee shall ensure that the district complies with the following requirements:

**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY** (continued)

1. School facilities shall be inspected for asbestos-containing materials as necessary in accordance with the following:
  - a. Any school building that is leased or acquired by the district shall be inspected for asbestos-containing materials prior to its use as a school building, unless exempted by federal regulations. (40 CFR 763.85, 763.99)
  - b. At least once every six months, the district shall conduct a periodic surveillance consisting of a visual inspection of each school building that contains or is assumed to contain asbestos-containing building materials. (40 CFR 763.92)
  - c. At least once every three years, the district shall conduct a re-inspection of all known or assumed asbestos-containing building materials in each school building. (40 CFR 763.85)
2. Based on the results of the inspection, an appropriate response which is sufficient to protect human health and the environment shall be determined from among the options specified in 40 CFR 763.90. The district may select the least burdensome response, taking into consideration local circumstances, including occupancy and use patterns within the school building and economic concerns such as short-term and long-term costs. (40 CFR 763.90)
3. An asbestos management plan for each school site shall be maintained and regularly updated to keep it current with ongoing operations and maintenance, periodic surveillance, inspection, re-inspection, and response action activities. (15 USC 2643; 40 CFR 763.93)

The asbestos management plan shall be available for inspection in district and school offices during normal business hours. Parent/guardian, teacher, and employee organizations shall be annually informed of the availability of these plans. (40 CFR 763.84)

*(cf. 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9 - Employee Notifications)*

*(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)*

4. Staff, students, and parents/guardians shall be informed at least once each school year about any inspections, response actions, and post-response actions, including periodic re-inspection and surveillance activities, that are planned or in progress. (40 CFR 763.84)

**ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY** (continued)

5. Inspections, re-inspections, periodic surveillance, and response actions, including operations and maintenance, shall be conducted in compliance with state and federal regulations for the protection and safety of workers and all other individuals. (Education Code 49410.5; 40 CFR 763.84)

Asbestos inspection and abatement work and any maintenance activities that may disturb asbestos-containing building materials, except for emergency repairs or small-scale, short-duration maintenance activities, shall be completed by state-certified asbestos inspectors or contractors. (15 USC 2646; 40 CFR 763.84, 763.85, 763.91)

6. All custodial and maintenance employees shall be properly trained in accordance with applicable federal and/or state regulations. (40 CFR 763.84)

All district maintenance and custodial staff who may work in a building that contains asbestos-containing materials, regardless of whether they are required to work with such materials, shall receive at least two hours of related asbestos awareness training. New maintenance and custodial staff shall receive such training within 60 days after beginning employment. Any maintenance or custodial staff who conduct activities that will disturb asbestos-containing materials shall receive 14 hours of additional training. The trainings shall address the topics specified in 40 CFR 763.92. (15 USC 2655; 40 CFR 763.84, 763.92)

7. Short-term workers, such as telephone repair workers, utility workers, or exterminators, who may come in contact with asbestos in a school shall be provided information regarding the locations of known or suspected asbestos-containing building materials. (40 CFR 763.84)

8. Warning labels shall be posted immediately adjacent to any known or suspected asbestos-containing building material located in routine maintenance areas in accordance with 40 CFR 763.95. (40 CFR 763.84)

The district shall maintain, in both the district and school offices and for a period of three years, records pertaining to each preventive measure and response action taken; staff training; periodic surveillances conducted; cleaning, operations, and maintenance activities; and any fiber release episode. (40 CFR 763.94)