

ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) enacted by Congress in 1986 requires that the school district notify parents and public of asbestos containing materials in school buildings on an annual basis. For many years asbestos has been used as a fireproofing, soundproofing, and insulation material in many commercial buildings. As the materials which contain the asbestos become old, they frequently release asbestos fibers into the air. Those fibers pose a health risk to individuals who may come in contact with them.

Asbestos is classified as two types---friable and nonfriable. Friable asbestos is that which may be crumbled or pulverized by hand pressure. Examples of friable asbestos containing materials include pipe insulation, some ceiling tiles, and sprayed on acoustical insulation. Nonfriable asbestos containing materials include items which are unable to be crumbled or pulverized by hand pressure and often include older types of floor tile.

During the summer of 1989, the school district contracted with an asbestos removal company to remove all friable asbestos from the district facilities. Following removal the district conducted air monitoring to ensure that no asbestos fibers remained in our district facilities. While a small amount of asbestos containing material may still exist in the floor tile, that material is nonfriable which means the asbestos is embedded in the material itself and does not pose a health risk to students or public. In order to make certain the floor tile remains in good condition, district staff periodically inspect all areas containing materials that are known or suspected to contain asbestos. Additionally, once every three years an EPA certified inspector reviews all asbestos containing materials to determine if they are still in a nonfriable condition. The last reinspection occurred in August 2016. A reinspection will take place in Fall 2019. Copies of the district asbestos plan are on file in the building offices as well as the administration office and are open for public inspection during normal business hours.