

# **Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)**

## **Summary Report 2023-2024 School Year**

Dear Parent, Guardian, and School Staff:

**During the 2023-24 school year there were no instances where Asbestos was an imminent hazard to the health or well-being of our students or employees.**

The Asbestos Hazardous Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986 requires public and private non-profit primary and secondary schools to inspect their buildings for asbestos-containing building materials, and requires schools to:

- Perform an original inspection and periodic re-inspections every 3 years for asbestos containing material;
- Develop, maintain, and update an asbestos management plan and keep a copy at the school;
- Provide yearly notification to parent, teacher, and employee organizations regarding the availability of the school's asbestos management plan and any asbestos abatement actions taken or planned in the school;
- Designate a contact person to ensure the responsibilities of the local education agency are properly implemented;
- Perform periodic surveillance of known or suspected asbestos containing building material;
- Provide custodial staff with asbestos awareness training.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires a pro-active, in-place management program for Asbestos Containing Building Material.

- Asbestos identified material will pose little risk if maintained under an operations and maintenance program.
- Removal is often not a building owner's best course of action to reduce asbestos exposure. In fact, an improper removal can create a dangerous situation where none previously existed.
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) only requires asbestos removal to prevent significant public exposure to airborne asbestos fibers during building demolition or renovation activities.

The District's management plans are available for review through the Office of Buildings and Grounds. The following asbestos abatement projects occurred during the 2023-2024 year:

### **Middle School Gang Bathroom Renovation**

- Remove and dispose of chase walls & pipe insulations & mudded fittings on plumbing and heating piping behind walls. Typically 238 linear foot of TSI & 1,200 square feet of Wall
- Remove and dispose of all electrical wiring, lighting fixtures, boxes and the like. Typically 31 light fixtures & 1,120 linear foot of wiring.
- Remove and dispose of ceiling tie & adhesive, Typically For 40 square feet

### **Cornwall Elementary School Gang bathrooms and classroom sinks**

- Pipe Mudded Fittings : Second Floor Hallway B: 20 Fittings
- Pipe Mudded Fittings and Insulation behind bathroom chase walls and First & Second Floor Gang bathrooms
- Black or Pink Coating on Sink: First and Second Floor Classrooms

### **Willow Avenue Elementary School Gang Bathroom and Loading Dock Renovations:**

- Remove and dispose of chase walls & pipe insulations & mudded fittings on plumbing and heating piping behind walls. Typically 250 linear feet of TSI & 1,000 square feet of Wall
- Remove and dispose of all electrical wiring, lighting fixtures, boxes and the like. Typically: Nine (9) light fixtures & 450 linear feet of wiring.
- Remove and dispose of caulking at loading dock rail. Typically 4 square feet

### **District Office Roof Replacement and Mechanical Room Abatement**

- Roof replacement project Roofing: Paper and Tar in Yankee Gutter 240 sqft, Tar around chimney and window roof valley 60 sqft, Red Fill Material 1sqft
- Mechanical and Breakroom project: Abatement: 500 square feet of duct insulation, 350 square feet of duct seam insulation, 90 linear feet of pipe insulation and 22-mudded fittings.

For further information, contact John Pinckney, Director of Health, Safety and Aquatics, who is the Asbestos Designee for the Cornwall Central School District at 534-8009, ext. 5228.

7/2/2024