

# Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Summary Report 2022-2023 School Year

Dear Parent, Guardian, and School Staff:

**During the 2022-23 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. Please note during the year the following asbestos abatement projects occurred during the 2022-2023 year:

- **Middle School Library and annex gymnasium floor tile and mastic abatement, July 2022**
  - Library: 2,800 sqft
  - Annex Gym 1,725 sqft
- **District Office Exterior Ground Discovered Construction Debris Abatement;**
  - Approximately 15,000 square feet of Gray Transite Shingles; July 2022
  - Abatement/cleanup approximately 301 square feet of ACM Roof Tar & Fill: June 2023

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.