

November 2017

Dear Parents, Guardians, Teachers, Staff and Building Occupants:

Subject: Annual Notification for AHERA

In the past, asbestos was used extensively in building materials because of its insulating, sound absorbing, and fire retarding capabilities. Virtually any building constructed before the late 1970's contained some asbestos. Intact and undisturbed asbestos materials generally do not pose a health risk. Asbestos materials, however, can become hazardous when, due to damage or deterioration over time, they release fibers. If the fibers are inhaled, they can lead to health problems, such as cancer and asbestosis.

In 1986, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) that requires schools to be inspected to identify any asbestos containing building materials. Suspected asbestos-containing building materials were located and sampled (or, in some cases, assumed to be asbestos-containing) and then rated according to the EPA parameters of condition and potential hazard. Every three years, the Nanuet School District has conducted a formal re-inspection by EPA-Accredited Asbestos Inspectors to determine whether the condition of the known or assumed asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) has changed and to make recommendations on managing or removing the ACBM. The three (3) year reinspection was conducted in 2016. The six (6) month surveillances are conducted by Rockland BOCES, and the last one was conducted in July 2017. All materials listed in the Management Plan as asbestos containing (or assumed to be asbestos-containing) are inspected.

The law also requires an asbestos management plan to be in place by July 1989. Nanuet School District developed a plan for all schools and buildings as required. The plan has several ongoing requirements: publish a notification on management plan availability and the status of asbestos activities; educate and train its employees about asbestos and how to deal with it; notify short-term or temporary workers on the locations of the asbestos containing building materials; post warning labels in routine maintenance areas where asbestos was previously identified or assumed; follow set plans and procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of asbestos containing building materials; and survey the condition of these materials every six months to assure that they remain in good condition.

In the past year asbestos containing floor materials were removed from the Nanuet High School.

It is the intention of NSD to comply with all federal and state regulations controlling asbestos and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure students and employees a healthy and safe environment in which to learn and work. You are welcome to review a copy of the asbestos management plan in the NSD's Buildings & Grounds office or any of the schools' administrative offices during regular business hours. All inquiries regarding the asbestos plan and asbestos-related issues should be directed to me at 845-627-9852.

Sincerely,

Director of Facilities