

**Regulation 3514: Environmental Safety**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 04/03/2014 | **Last Revised Date:** 08/01/2019

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. Mechanically driven heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems shall be inspected at least annually and problems corrected within a reasonable time. Where the air supply is filtered, the filters shall be replaced or cleaned regularly to prevent reductions in airflow. 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 the plumbing and roofs, poor drainage, and improper ventilation so as to preclude the buildup of mold and mildew.

3. Least toxic pest management practices shall be used to control and manage pests at school sites.

(cf. 3514.2 - Integrated Pest Management)

4. Schedules and practices for routine housekeeping and maintenance shall be designed to effectively reduce levels of dust, dirt, and debris. Aerosols, including air fresheners and other products containing ozone, shall be avoided to the extent possible.

(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)

5. 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.

6. Paints, adhesives, and solvents shall be used and stored in well ventilated areas. These items may be purchased in small quantities to avoid exposure.

(cf. 3514.1 - Hazardous Substances)

(cf. 6161 - Toxic Art Supplies)

7. 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.

8. 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)

9. Staff and students shall be asked to refrain from bringing common irritants such as scented candles, incense, or air fresheners and from using perfume or cologne, scented lotion or other personal care products that are not fragrance-free in classrooms or other enclosed areas or buildings.

#### 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.

Whenever these measures indicate a significant health risk, the Superintendent or designee may 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, dual-fueled, or alternative diesel-fueled school bus with a gross vehicle weight rating over 14,000 pounds shall be equipped with a particulate filter designed to reduce particulate matter emissions, oxides of nitrogen emissions, and other pollutants. (13 CCR 2025)

#### Lead Exposure

In addition to keeping school facilities as dust-free and clean as possible, the following steps shall be taken to minimize potential exposure to lead in school facilities:

1. Lead-based paint, lead plumbing and solders, or other potential sources of lead contamination shall not be used in the construction of any new school facility or the modernization or renovation of any existing school facility. (Education Code 32244)
2. Lead exposure hazards shall be evaluated before any renovation or remodeling is begun, and children shall not be allowed in or near buildings in which these activities may create lead dust. Contractors and workers shall comply with state and federal standards related to the handling and disposal of lead debris and the clean-up and containment of dust within the construction area.
3. Lead-based painted surfaces that are in good condition shall be kept intact. If lead-based paint is peeling, flaking, or chalking, contractors or workers shall follow state and federal standards for safe work practices to minimize contamination when removing the paint.
4. Soil with high lead content may be covered with grass, other plantings, concrete, or asphalt.

#### Asbestos Management

The Superintendent shall 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)

#### Other Environmental Safety Precautions

Principals shall enforce school rules designed to:

1. Prevent the accumulation of flammable, noxious, or otherwise dangerous materials unless adequate safeguards are provided
  2. Keep all school facilities free of debris
  3. Keep walkways at all times open to pedestrian traffic and clear of debris or other obstructions
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