

Policy 3514.1: Hazardous Substances

Status: ADOPTED

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The Board of Education desires to provide a safe school environment that protects students and employees from exposure to potentially hazardous substances that may be used in the district's educational program and in the maintenance and operation of district facilities and equipment.

Insofar as possible, the Superintendent or designee shall minimize the quantities of hazardous substances stored on school property. When hazardous substances must be used, the Superintendent or designee shall give preference to materials that cause the least risk to people and the environment.

Specifically, the district will procure and use "green" environmentally friendly products (as defined by the most current Cities of Santa Monica and Malibu environmentally preferable purchasing criteria) whenever possible, to reduce harm to the environment and contribute to the sustainable cities' effort in Santa Monica and Malibu.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all potentially hazardous substances on district properties are inventoried, used, stored, and regularly disposed of in a safe and legal manner.

As a priority, the district will focus on identifying and reducing the amounts of hazardous and toxic materials found its operations, including janitorial services, pest control, fleet maintenance and building maintenance. Furthermore, the district will seek to identify the most hazardous and toxic materials used and the highest volume products used in order to target these products for reduction and elimination, if possible.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop specific measures to ensure the safety of students and staff in school laboratories where hazardous chemicals are used. Such measures shall include the development and implementation of a chemical hygiene plan in accordance with 8 CCR 5191 and instruction to students about proper handling of hazardous substances.

Hazard Communication Program

The Superintendent or designee shall develop, implement and monitor a written hazard communication program in accordance with state law. As part of this program, he/she shall ensure that employees are fully informed about the properties and potential hazards of substances to which they may be exposed and that material safety data sheets are readily accessible to them.

Teachers shall instruct students about the importance of proper handling, storage, disposal and protection when using any potentially hazardous substance.
