

## PESTICIDES AND PEST MANAGEMENT

It is the goal of the Board of Education to maintain the integrity of school buildings and grounds, protect the health and safety of students and staff, and maintain a productive learning environment.

The Board recognizes that pests can pose a significant risk to health and property and there may be significant risks inherent in using chemical pesticides in the school environment. Provisions will be made for a least toxic approach to integrated pest management (IPM) for all school buildings and grounds in accordance with the Commissioner's regulations. Integrated pest management is a systematic approach to managing pests focusing on long-term prevention or suppression with minimal impact on human health, the environment, and non-targeted organisms.

Generally, pesticides will not be used on District playgrounds, turf, athletic, or playing fields, unless there is an emergency. Emergencies will be handled in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

### Notification of Pesticide Application

All District staff and parents, guardians, and/or persons in parental relation will be notified of pesticide applications performed at any school facility. A notice will be sent at the beginning of the school year which will include:

1. Notification of periodic pesticide applications throughout school year.
2. The availability of 48-hour prior written notification of pesticide applications to parents and staff who request such notice.
3. Instructions on how to register with the school to receive this prior written notification.
4. The name and number of the school representative who can provide further information.

A separate notice will be sent to staff and parents, guardians, and/or persons in parental relation within two (2) days of the end of winter and spring recess, and within ten (10) days of the end of the school year. Said notice shall include the date, location, and product used for each pesticide application which required prior notification and each emergency application.

The Superintendent of Schools shall ensure the dissemination of this policy and conduct any training necessary to ensure that all staff are fully informed about pesticides and pest management.

Cross-Ref:     8110, School Building Safety  
                  8220, Building and Grounds Maintenance and Inspection

Ref:     Environmental Conservation Law, Art.33  
           Education Law § 409-h  
           Education Law § 409-k  
           6 NYCRR Part 325  
           8 NYCRR § 155.4

*Desmond Americana v. Jorling*, 153 AD2d 4 (3rd Dept. 1989)  
*IPM Workbook for New York State Schools*, Cornell Cooperative Extension Community  
IPM Program with support from New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation,  
August 1998

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