

BPS District's Methods for Drinking Water Quality Control & Assurance

Historical Practice

In the late 1990s, the BPS District tested all drinking water sources in school buildings constructed prior to 1986, for the presence of lead (Pb) as it related to guidelines established by the *Federal EPA Safe Drinking Water Act* and subsequent *Lead and Copper Rule* that was published in 1991. The testing and some remediation (specifically the removal/replacement of refrigerated water coolers/ water fountains discovered to have contained lead solder in the internal piping of the watercooler/dispensing appliance) were completed during the late 1990s. From this comprehensive testing initiative and limited remediation activities, there remains no District school sites with known lead (Pb) in water contamination (Charter Schools not included).

The BPS District retains Board Policy 8400 (entitled: EH&S Issues) that generally addresses occupant health and safety and includes water pollution. [Board Policy Website](#)

Current/Ongoing Practices

The District retains updated publication of a procedure entitled Emergency Operation Procedure for Potential Drinking Water Contamination. This Procedure used by District support staff and administrators identifies response action procedures (i.e. restricting water use, providing secondary drinking water sources, water quality testing, etc.) for the health and safety protection of building occupants.

[Emergency Response Procedure](#)

The District's Office of Environmental Health and Safety performs periodic and randomly selected (school/site) drinking water quality analysis, including testing for the presence/absence of lead (*EPA Threshold Level* < 0.015 mg/l in water).

Reliance on Municipal Potable Water Supply

The District (and the community at large) rely upon the various local municipal water supply agencies to provide potable water to District school sites free of harmful products to include but not limited to lead (Pb). Specific *Federal EPA* drinking water regulations require all such water purveyors to perform routine water quality testing and results reporting.

Drinking water at all schools and ancillary facilities is provided by municipal utilities. These are regulated utilities that must test their water and publish water quality reports annually. These are links to the annual water quality reports required by EPA:

City of Melbourne Water Quality Report: <https://www.melbourneflorida.org/>

City of Cocoa Water Quality Report: <https://www.cocoafl.org/235/Utilities>

City of Palm Bay Water Quality Report:

<https://www.palmbayflorida.org/government/departments/customer-service/>

City of Titusville Water Quality Report: <https://www.titusville.com/>



Brevard County (Florida) Bylaws & Policies

8400 - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

The Board recognizes its responsibility relative to student, employee, and visitor health and safety, and the need for development and implementation of a comprehensive program designed to provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment on District property and at District-sponsored activities. To achieve this, it is the intent of the Board that the District will avail itself of the most current, proven technologies in the fields of health, safety, and environmental sciences.

STUDENT, EMPLOYEE, AND VISITOR HEALTH AND SAFETY

The District shall develop and implement an environmental health and safety program that is positive, proactive, integrates responsibilities within the District, and promotes and incorporates the following:

- A. Procedures describing a hazard identification and abatement program that requires the periodic inspection of District facilities, the implementation of immediate and programmed corrective actions when deemed necessary by such inspections, and the development of a District-wide hazard reporting procedure that enables employee/ stakeholder participation. This program should also provide procedures for identifying and responding to hazards that are created by outside entities, inspecting activities of contractors, and inspecting new facilities to determine whether or not appropriate requirements for environmental health and safety have been met.
- B. Procedures that promote environmental health and safety awareness among employees, students, and stakeholders. These procedures shall include, but not be limited to, the establishment of school and District safety committees, and the establishment of a program of regular communication with students, employees, and stakeholders about pertinent safety and health issues through available mediums in the District.
- C. Procedures directed toward the safety and health of students during transportation to and from school, at school, and during participation in school-related activities. These procedures shall include, but not be limited to, promoting bus safety for students, assessing the safety of school traffic patterns, operating school clinics, administering medication and medical treatment, promoting laboratory and shop safety, promoting safety in sports and other outdoor activities, inspecting playground equipment and promoting safety on playgrounds, and assessing environmental exposure.
- D. Procedures related to District employee health and safety issues that include, but are not limited to, provision of work areas free from recognized hazards and OSHA-related programs that are required by Federal and State law, such as, employee safety and health training and training in hazard recognition, and defining employer and employee responsibilities and expectations related to health and safety.
- E. Procedures describing an accident reporting and investigation system that provides for identification of root causes, determination of remedial and programmed corrective actions, and provides communication about accidents to employees and stakeholders.
- F. Procedures that detail plans for foreseeable emergencies and fire prevention.

PHASE-OUT/BANNED PRODUCTS

Any chemicals, pesticide, or other materials that the Federal government is phasing out and/or banning by a certain date will be immediately banned from use on District property.

ASBESTOS-CONTAINING MATERIALS

The District shall appoint a "Local Education Agency designated person" responsible for ensuring development and implementation of a program to manage asbestos-containing materials in accordance with applicable U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

The District shall implement a pest management program in accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools procedures. This program will include appointment of a District IPM Coordinator an IPM awareness program, training for custodians, and provide for notification regarding chemical use. The District shall periodically review and evaluate progress toward its pesticide use, reduction, and minimization goals.

All businesses and/or persons applying pesticides on District property shall hold the appropriate State license/certificate and shall be pre-approved by the District's IPM Coordinator. All pesticide materials and application methods must also be pre-approved by the IPM Coordinator. The IPM Coordinator may allow certain unlicensed District employees permission (in writing) to apply pre-approved exterior herbicides and insect baits, for a specific location, purpose, and period of time, and whereby the product is prepackaged and made ready-to-use (un-concentrated form) by the product manufacture.

INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (IEQ)

The District shall:

- A. address prevention of water intrusion and remediation of wetted building materials as priority IEQ issues;
- B. maintain environmental conditions in occupied areas that are in compliance with applicable regulations and strive to conform to consensus industry standards;
- C. implement a preventative maintenance program for HVAC systems including, but not limited to, periodic filter replacement, inspection, cleaning and disinfecting processes, and procedures to eliminate the contribution to indoor air quality problems caused by this equipment;
- D. implement a system for insuring materials used and purchased for use in the construction, furnishing, and maintenance, including cleaning of facilities, do not contribute to health hazards to employees and students by degrading the quality of indoor air; and
- E. prohibit activities that create indoor air quality health hazards or may degrade the quality of indoor air for reasons unrelated to the educational mission.

Use of candles, air fresheners, and upholstered furniture not purchased by the District is prohibited.

ANIMALS ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

Animals permitted on District property shall be limited to those necessary to support specific curriculum-related projects and activities, or prescribed therapy benefiting a student or staff member, provide assistance to a student or staff member who has a seizure disorder, or as otherwise required by law. Taking into consideration that some animals can cause or exacerbate allergic reactions, spread bacterial infections, or cause damage and create a hazard if they escape from confinement, animals may be present only under the following conditions:

- A. the responsible staff member obtains permission from the principal or site administrator, takes necessary precautions to protect the health and safety of students and staff, ensures that each animal is treated humanely, kept in a health condition in appropriate housing in properly cleaned and maintained cages and tanks, and keeps surrounding areas in a clean and sanitary condition at all times; and
- B. other staff members and parents of students in areas potentially affected by animals have been notified in writing and adjustments have been made to accommodate verified health-related or other concerns. Except where required by law, the presence of an animal shall be disallowed if documented health concerns of a student or staff member cannot be accommodated.

The Superintendent shall develop, and implement, the administrative procedures necessary to regulate the presence of animals on District property.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

The District shall develop and implement procedures to identify, control the use of, and dispose of regulated and hazardous wastes generated as a result of district activities. Such procedures shall be in compliance with all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Florida Department of Environmental Protection Hazardous Waste Regulations.

POLLUTION CONTROL AND PREVENTION

In an effort to comply with environmental policy and applicable regulations, the District shall develop and implement procedures designed to prevent air and water pollution, minimize or eliminate waste streams where possible, and identify possible sources of air and water pollution.

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