

CENTRAL DAUPHIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Gil Tunney
Director of Buildings and Grounds

Dear Parents, Building Occupants, and Employees

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), which requires schools to be inspected to identify any asbestos-containing materials. Suspected asbestos-containing building materials were located, sampled, (or assumed), and rated according to condition and potential hazard. Every three years, the Central Dauphin School District, (CDS), conducts a re-inspection by a Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry licensed asbestos inspector 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 last re-inspection was conducted on August 17-19, 2005. Periodic surveillance of all asbestos-containing materials occurs every six months.

The law further requires an asbestos management plan to be in place by July 1989. CDS developed a plan, as required, which has been continually updated. 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 material; 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 insure that they remain in good condition.

It is the intention of CDS 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 District Administration Office (600 Rutherford Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109) or an administrative office of the school during regular business hours. Mr. Gilbert Tunney, (Director of Buildings and Grounds), is our designated asbestos program coordinator, and all inquiries regarding the asbestos plan and asbestos-related issues should be directed to him at (717)545-4703.