

West Linn – Wilsonville Schools

October 6, 2009

Dear Parents, Teachers, Building Occupants, and Employee Organizations:

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 1970s 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 building materials. Suspected asbestoscontaining building materials were located, sampled (or assumed) and rated according to condition and potential hazard. Every three years, **West Linn Wilsonville School District** has conducted a reinspection 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. At the last re-inspection, all materials listed in the Management Plan as asbestos containing (or assumed to be asbestos containing) were inspected and found to be in good condition.

The law further required an asbestos management plan to be in place by July 1989. **West Linn Wilsonville School District** 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 materials
- 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
- survey the condition of these materials every six months to assure that they remain in good condition.

The following buildings contain no asbestos-containing building materials; therefore, no operations and maintenance programs or future inspections are required:

- ArtTech High School
- Athey Creek Middle School
- Boeckman Creek Primary School
- Boones Ferry Primary School
- Wilsonville High School
- Rosemont Ridge Middle School
- West Linn High School (except the 700 Building)
- C.R.E.S.T.
- District Operations Center

For details concerning asbestos related activities such as, current asbestos removal, maintenance, or periodic surveillance in district facilities, please review our Asbestos Management Plan Notebooks which are located in each facility and at the District Operations Center. The plans are also available on the District website.

It is the intention of **West Linn Wilsonville School District** to comply with all federal and state regulations regarding 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 each Facility Asbestos Management Plan kept on file in our District Operations Center or at each site during regular business hours.

For all inquiries regarding the Asbestos Management Plan and asbestos-related issues in our district, please contact Tim Woodley, designated Asbestos Program Manager, at (503) 673-7995.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Tim K. Woodley, Asbestos Program Manager

Department of Operations

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