



October 18, 2021

MEMORANDUM

To: HCPSS Employees

From: Scott Washington SWW  
Chief Operating Officer

Subject: Asbestos Management Plan Annual Notification

This letter serves as notification, as required by law, of the availability for public review of Asbestos Management Plans for Howard County Public Schools.

In October 1986, the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) was enacted. Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos in schools. These regulations required school systems to inspect their facilities for asbestos-containing building materials, develop asbestos management plans, and implement appropriate response actions.

The Howard County Public School System's program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in the asbestos management plan for each building. These plans contain information on the initial inspections, response actions, and post response action activities and are located in each school's administrative office. A copy of each plan is also available in the Office of the Environment located at the Board of Education. These plans are available for public review during school and Board business hours. The plans, however, may not be taken from the building.

Schools constructed after October 1988 are not to contain asbestos building materials. As a result of systemic renovations over the years, HCPSS has a minimal amount of asbestos-containing material remaining in our buildings. In older schools, floor tiles often contain asbestos and a few facilities have asbestos-containing thermal insulation on a pipe located in crawlspaces inaccessible to building occupants.

The majority of asbestos removal is completed in conjunction with school renovation projects. Asbestos removal projects are scheduled when the school facility is closed, such as during summer and spring break, although deviations from this can occur due to logistical issues.

For additional information, contact the Office of the Environment at 410-313-8874.