

- Policy Number: 950
 - Policy Name: School Pest Management
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PROCEDURES

IPM procedures will determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, chemical, cultural, biological means or some combination thereof. IPM practitioners depend on current, comprehensive information on the pest and its environment and the best available pest control methods. Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest activity and damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

The choice of using a pesticide will be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not acceptable or are not feasible. Cost or staffing considerations alone will not be adequate justification for use of chemical control agents, and selected non-chemical pest management methods will be implemented whenever possible to provide the desired control. It is the policy of this School District to utilize IPM principles to manage pest populations adequately. The full range of alternatives, including no action, will be considered.

When it is determined that a pesticide must be used in order to meet important management goals, and all other measures have failed, the most appropriate pesticide may be applied in a school building or on the grounds. The pesticide application will occur when students are not expected for normal academic instruction or organized extracurricular activities for at least 24 hours following the application. A period of 24 hours shall lapse following the application of pesticide, except for very limited usage of pesticide in emergency. The authority will be vested in the principal of each school to consult with the pest control applicator of the Board about pest problems and declare an emergency if deemed necessary. The main emphasis will always be to direct the pesticide into the harborage area or areas to minimize or eliminate the spread of any residue to other non-target areas.

IPM techniques will be adjusted to meet conditions as they arise or as new techniques are developed. The District will support the IPM program by:

Providing staff development programs for all employees regarding storage of food, perishable instructional materials, cleaning techniques, and the operating of traps.

The IPM program will be administered to control pests in a sufficient manner to assure a safe and healthy environment for students.

EDUCATION

Staff, students, pest managers, and the public will be educated about potential school pest problems and the IPM policies and procedures to be used to achieve the desired pest management objectives.

RECORD KEEPING

Records of pesticide use shall be maintained on a designated site to meet the requirements of the regulatory agency and the School Board. Records must be current and accurate if IPM is to work. In addition, pest surveillance data sheets that record the number of pests or other indicators of pest populations are to be maintained to verify the need for treatments.

NOTIFICATION

In accordance with the recommendation of Department of Education and the requirement of the Provincial Pest Management Act (2003) parents/guardians shall be notified by the principal of the school or his/her designee 72 hours prior to pesticide application. The principal of each school must maintain a record with the names of any students who are listed in a Pesticide Hyper-sensitivity Registry and always notify these individuals and/or their parents/guardians whenever pesticide application is made.
