

ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS, STUDENTS, AND EMPLOYEES

Halifax County Schools /420

(Pursuant to the AHERA Rule, 40 C.F.R. 763.84 (c), 763.93 (g) (4))

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral, which has, until about 1980, been commonly used in building materials. Asbestos will not burn, is an excellent insulator, has great strength, is resistant to chemicals, and absorbs sound. Examples of asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM) are vinyl floor tile, sprayed-on acoustical ceiling material, and pipe insulation. As ACBM deteriorates over time, or are disturbed by maintenance, renovation, or demolition activities, asbestos fibers may be released into the air. Inhalation of these airborne, microscopic fibers has been proven to cause such deadly diseases as lung cancer, mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the lungs), and asbestosis (scarring of lung tissues). Uncontrolled asbestos contamination in buildings has been, and remains, a significant environmental and public health issue. In 1986, Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) to require public and private, secondary and elementary schools to identify ACBM in their school buildings and take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers. In 1987, the US environmental protection Agency finalized a regulatory program, which enforces the AHERA mandate. These regulations are incorporated within the AHERA 40 C.F.R Part 763, Subpart E.

In compliance with the AHERA Rule, the Halifax County School/420 District had its school buildings inspected by an asbestos inspector accredited by the State of North Carolina. During that inspection, areas of suspect ACBM were noted. Samples were taken of some, or all, of the suspect ACBM. Laboratory analysis of these samples confirmed the presence or absence of ACBM. Suspect ACBM not sampled and analyze were assumed to contain asbestos. Confirmed and/or assumed ACBM currently remain in certain locations in our school buildings. Upon confirmation of the presence of ACBM, a Asbestos Management Plan was developed for each of the school building in Halifax County School District by an asbestos management planner accredited by the State of North Carolina. The Asbestos Management Plan includes a description of the measures currently being taken to ensure that the ACBM remaining in our school buildings are maintained in a condition that will not pose a threat to the health of our students and employees. The plan describes past response actions taken to abate ACBM. Information is provided on the periodical monitoring of the condition of ACBM remaining in our school buildings through triennial re-inspections,)2009,20122015 etc.) which are conducted by accredited asbestos inspectors and through semiannual surveillance, conducted by trained school maintenance personnel.

The complete Asbestos Management plan is available for your review at the Maintenance Directors office during regular office hours. A copy of each schools plan is located with the principal at each location Mr. Tony Alston is the current designated Asbestos Program Coordinator for the Halifax School District. Please direct all inquiries regarding the Asbestos Management Plan to him at telephone number 252-583-2381 or Cell 252-678-4344.