



# Toms River School District Annual AHERA Notification

January 8, 2018

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 70'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 building materials (ACBM). Suspected asbestos-containing building materials were located, sampled and rated according to condition and potential hazard.

Every three years, the Toms River Regional School District has conducted a re-inspection 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 appropriate response actions recommended.

The law further required an asbestos management plan to be in place. The Toms River Regional School District developed a plan that is updated as needed to reflect current conditions. 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 to be asbestos; 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 assure that they remain in good condition.

During the past year, asbestos containing building materials have been removed, encapsulated or enclosed in the following buildings: High Schools East & South, Intermediate East, Cedar Grove, East Dover, Hooper Ave., Pine Beach, Silver Bay, Walnut, West Dover, Washington St, Hooper Avenue and Walnut Street Elementary schools.

It is the intention of the Toms River Public School District to comply with all federal and state regulations controlling asbestos and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure students and employees have 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 Facilities office at 123 Walnut St., Toms River during regular business hours.

Sincerely,

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Authorized Signature

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Title