

School safety is a priority

By Edell Fiedler, public information

Minimizing risk

In compliance with the Parents Right to Know Act of 2000, Mankato Area Public Schools has an integrated pest management plan designed to minimize the risk to human health and the environment as well as reduce use of chemical pesticides.

Mankato Area Public Schools does not apply pesticides on school property unless all other measures have not worked. If insect control sprays and dusts need to be applied, it is done when students are not in the area during application and until product has dissipated.

For questions, more information, or if there's interest in being notified prior to an application, contact Scott Hogen, director of facilities, at 507-345-5311 or shogen1@isd77.org.

Asbestos lookout

Mankato Area Public Schools, in accordance with the Federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), has a stringent inspection and management program for all building materials containing asbestos.

The district strives to maintain a safe and healthful environment for students and staff. Every three years, all buildings owned and leased by the district are re-inspected by a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) accredited inspector for asbestos content. All materials containing asbestos are surveyed every six months along with visual inspections to ensure a minimal level of health risks.

Any materials needing repair or removal are done safely responsibly under the district's asbestos operation and maintenance program.

Mankato Area Public Schools has a list of locations and types of asbestos-containing materials found in its buildings. A copy of the asbestos management plan is available for review in the district's facility office, 10 Civic Center Plaza.

Indoor air quality

Mankato Area Public Schools is committed to providing and maintaining good air quality. Schools follow EPA guidelines to improve Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) by being proactive. Throughout the year, air quality is regularly monitored and air handling systems are maintained to ensure good quality.

District health and safety department staff follow-up on any reported items. Mankato Area Public Schools has agreed to administer an IAQ Management Plan, which includes taking a team leadership role, coordinating emergency response and serving as an information resource.

Water testing for safety

Mankato Area Public Schools diligently tests for lead in water and radon. Buildings are placed on a five-year rotation and follow Minnesota statutes about lead in water (121A.335) and radon guidelines and protocols (123B.571). For more information and testing schedules, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yyb6k2po> or contact staff at 507-345-5311 or shogen1@isd77.org



**For questions or more information, contact
Scott Hogen (pictured), director of facilities, at
507-345-5311 or shogen1@isd77.org**