

*Operations Department*

August 24, 2020

**Annual Notification Letter – Integrated Pest Management Program**

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Employee:

We provide this information to you in order to comply with the requirement of the Integrated Pest Control Management Act, Act 35 of 2002, and the Pesticide Notification Act, Act 36 of 2002 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The intent of these laws is to minimize use of pesticides on school property through the use of modern pest control methods.

The Lower Merion School District uses an Integrated Pest management (IPM) approach for managing insects, rodents and weeds. Our goal is to protect every student from pesticide exposure by using an IPM approach to pest management. Our IPM approach focuses on making the school building and grounds an unfavorable habitat for these pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. We accomplish this through routine cleaning and maintenance. We monitor the school building and grounds to detect any pests that are present. The pest monitoring team consists of our building maintenance, office, and teaching staff and includes our students. Pest sightings are reported to our IPM Coordinator who evaluates the "pest problem" and determines the appropriate pest management techniques to address the problem. The techniques can include increased sanitation, modifying storage practices, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest, etc.

From time to time, it may be necessary to use control products to manage a pest problem. Control products will only be used when necessary, and will not be routinely applied. When control products are used, the school district will use the least toxic products possible. Applications will not be made when students and staff have access to the area(s) being treated. Notices will be posted in these areas 72 hours prior to a non-emergency application and for two days following the application.

Enclosed is a schedule of pest control inspections. Please retain this information for your reference. If you desire a list of pest control products that may be used and their EPA registration numbers, please submit your request in writing or via email to the Operations Department.

Parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school will be notified of any specific treatment applications made on the school grounds, including athletic fields and recreational areas.

If a control product application must be made to control an emergency pest problem, notice will be given. Exceptions to this notification include disinfectants and antimicrobial products; self-containerized baits placed in areas not accessible to students, and gel type baits placed in cracks, crevices or voids; and swimming pool maintenance products.

If you have any questions, please contact our IPM Coordinator at the Operations Department by telephoning 610-645-1980.

Sincerely,  
Kenneth A. Pitts  
Assistant Director of Operations