

## **ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT (AHERA)**

In 1986, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), which requires schools to be inspected to identify any asbestos containing building materials. 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 last 1970s 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.

AHERA required an Asbestos Management Plan to be in place by July 1989. Lampeter-Strasburg School District developed an AHERA plan, which has been continually updated as required under the law. Every three years, the District has conducted a re-inspection to determine whether the condition of the known or assumed asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) has changed in order to ensure the proper handling of the ACBM. At the last re-inspection, all materials listed in the Management Plan as asbestos containing were inspected and found to be in good condition.

This notice is to inform the parents, teachers, and building occupants in the Lampeter-Strasburg School District that the School District has maintained its AHERA Management Plan and Periodic Surveillance as stipulated in the EPA's AHERA Section 763.84 regulation. This updated information concerning the Management Plan is available for review at the District office, 1600 Book Road, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17602. Also, a copy of each individual plan is on file at its respective school's main office. Questions regarding the Management Plan may be directed to the District Asbestos Program Coordinator. To view the plan, please call 717-464-3311 in advance. Photocopies of the plan are available at the rate of \$.25 per copied page.

It is the intention of the Lampeter-Strasburg School District to comply with all federal and state regulations and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure students, parents, and employees a healthy and safe environment in which to learn and work.