



## CLASSROOM FIRE SAFETY MATRIX

Item	Allowed Yes/No	Fire Retardant <sup>1</sup> & Affidavit Required (NFPA 701 Standards)	Included in *50% Rule?	Other Requirements <i>*other jurisdiction may only allow up to 20% as a rule.</i>
<b>Educational materials on walls in the classroom</b> <i>*City of Murphy – No more than 20% of the wall in a corridor may be covered. – per wall not per corridor.</i>	*Yes	No	Yes	May extend to the ceiling, but must be flat against the wall. All combustible materials (paper) over the means of egress (doors/windows) are not allowed. Artwork is limited to <b>no more than 50%</b> of the wall that it is attached to.
<b>Decorations on exit/classroom doors and items dangling over doorways</b>	No	No	No	Artwork or teaching materials is not allowed within two (2') feet of the vertical sides of the classroom doors on both the interior or exterior sides. Materials will be allowed above the door as a "header". Items cannot break the plane of the top door frame.
<b>*Fire Retardant Affidavit Requirements</b>	*Yes	*Yes	No	Must be visible and near the classroom entrance. <i>*City of Murphy - Used or empty fire retardant container must be maintained in classroom if application on any item in that room was necessary.</i>
<b>Non-district purchased upholstered furnishing including cloth bean bags, pillows and rugs</b>	*Yes	Yes	No	Max allowance is 9 linear feet either one piece or a combination of pieces.
<b>Non-district purchased wooden bookshelves, cabinets and organizers</b> <i>Note: metal is preferred because they are not a fire hazard</i>	Yes	No	Yes	Since these items do not need to be fire retardant treated, they are included in the 20% rule. Any items stored on top will also be included in the 20% plus items must not surpass the 18" (sprinkled) or 24" (non-sprinkled) clearance from ceiling.
<b>Cloth covered bulletin boards</b>	Yes	Yes	No	Note: paper on the cloth will count towards 50% or 20%
<b>Non-district purchased window coverings</b>	No	No	No	Not allowed – curtains, valances or decorated coverings
<b>Items hanging from ceiling</b>	No	No	Yes	
<b>Ceiling tiles decorations</b>	No	No	Yes	Do not paint or put paper directly on tiles. Report any cracked, stained or missing tiles to the office for a maintenance work order. Ceiling tiles must sit flush in the ceiling grid.
<b>Microwaves in classrooms</b>	No	No	No	Exception – science and life skill classes as part of the curriculum requirements for those subject areas. Signs must be posted next to the microwave designating it for student curriculum use only. Must ensure proper ventilation. Do not stack any items on top or immediately beside. Never leave the microwave unattended when in use. No microwave popcorn. Please unplug and clean regularly.
<b>Refrigerators</b>	No	No	No	Must be direct plugged into wall outlet. Think green and share a team fridge if a fridge is a must.
<b>Coffee makers, toasters, toaster ovens</b>	No	No	No	Coffee makers only in approved break rooms this includes Keurig type
<b>Candles, candle warmers, scented plugins, or electric-powered air freshening device, diffusers</b>	No	No	No	Exception – candles that have never been lit are allowed.
<b>Space heaters</b>	No	No	No	
<b>Warming plates, fifth burners, hot plates, Galileo thermometers, halogen lamps, lava lamps, curling irons and hair dryers</b>	No	No	No	Exception: science and life skill classes, as well as for curriculum only for subject areas. Items must be unplugged at end of the day.
<b>Extension cords or multi-plug adapters are not allowed</b>	No	No	No	Extension cords cannot be used for lamps, televisions, electronic equipment.
<b>Surge protectors</b>	Yes	No	No	A surge protector can be left plugged in. A surge protector must be plugged directly into the wall; they may not be plugged into another surge protector or an extension cord even if it is temporary.
<b>String lights (Christmas style lights)</b>	*Yes	No	No	<b>*Not allowed for more than 90 days at one time during the school year and must be listed for indoor use;</b> do not put nails, thumb tacks, etc. through the strand. String lights must be plugged directly into the wall and unplugged every time you leave the room.
<b>Flammable paints, sprays, and other liquid chemicals</b>	*Yes	No	No	<b>*For curriculum purposes only.</b> Must be stored in a hazmat locker. If it is a water-based paint/chemical or it is not flammable it does not have to be stored in a hazmat locker. Container must be labeled with contents.

*These guidelines were created in partnership with our local fire departments to meet local fire codes. This is not an all-inclusive list. Our District is comprised of several jurisdictions so please comply with your appropriate fire marshal.*

Additional reference information on the District Indoor Air Quality Plan or Integrated Pest Management can be found on the [Facilities Website](#).

<sup>1</sup>Fire Department suggested fabric fire retardant products:

- [No-Burn, Inc. Fabric Guard Spray](#) NFPA 701, ASTM E-84 Suitable for natural and synthetic fibers and upholstery
- [National Fire Proofing](#) – FlamexPF Spray – Class A or B NFPA 255 & 701, ASTM E-84. Suitable for fabrics and dries clear.
- Amazon or local fabric stores are a good resource to purchase.