

ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS

Minnesota Statute requires we provide annual notification to parents, staff and students of Chatfield Public Schools of the topics below. If you have any questions, please use the contact number found in the notice.

LEAD-IN-WATER ANNUAL NOTIFICATION

Minnesota Statute 121A.335 requires public school buildings serving kindergarten through grade 12 to test for lead in water every 5 years. This statute also requires school districts to make the results of the testing available to the public for review and to notify parents of the availability of the information. Notification may be accomplished by publishing a statement in the “Back to School” newsletter or publication that is available to staff, students, parents, and the public.

In compliance with Minnesota Statute 121A.335, Chatfield Public Schools conducts mandatory testing every five years, with the next assessment scheduled for the spring of 2028. Should testing of a fixture reveal the presence of lead at or above 5 ppb, it will be immediately removed from service until remediation is successfully completed. Within 30 days of receiving the test results, the district will either remediate the lead concentration to below 5 ppb, verified through retesting, or provide direct notification of the findings to parents.

If a fixture exceeds 5 ppb and is not remediated within 30 days of receipt of results, parents/guardians and staff are notified, as required by Minnesota State Statute. The district reports lead-in-water test results and remediation activities to the Commissioner of Health annually.

MN State Statute 121A.335 created a reporting requirement for schools as follows:

1. Starting July 1, 2024, school districts and charter schools must report their test results and remediation activities to the commissioner of health in the form and manner determined by the commissioner in consultation with school districts and charter schools, by July 1 of each year. The commissioner of health must post and annually update the test results and remediation efforts on the department website by school site.
2. A district or charter school must maintain a record of lead testing results and remediation activities for at least 15 years.

Chatfield Public Schools is committed to providing a safe working and learning environment for employees and students. The district has developed a lead in water management plan and testing program that complies with Minnesota Statute 121A.335, as well as recommendations from the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) Lead Contamination Control Act (LCCA) of 1988 and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

For more information on Chatfield Public Schools lead reduction and testing program, please contact the Superintendent at 507-867-4210.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY ANNUAL NOTICE

Chatfield Public Schools has developed an indoor air quality management plan for the District that is in compliance with the Minnesota Department of Health and MN Department of Education. The plan addresses policies and procedures used in the district to address indoor air quality issues. The District Health and Safety Committee chaired by Ed Harris, Superintendent (507-867-4210) and the Institute for Environmental Assessment, the district’s health and safety consultant, review the plan annually. If you have any questions concerning indoor air quality or would like to use the EPA’s Tools for Schools checklists, please contact the school.

AHERA ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTICE

During the past school year and continuing into the 2024-2025 school year, the following asbestos management plan activities have been or are currently being completed. These

activities are pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency 40 CFR Part 763- “Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools; Final Rule and Notice.”

- Two (2) Semi-Annual Periodic Surveillance Inspections
- Notification of Asbestos Locations for Short-Term Workers (Electricians, Plumbers, etc.)
- Training of District Personnel

All asbestos work was completed by a licensed asbestos inspector. Chatfield Public Schools has contracted with the Institute for Environmental Assessment to provide environmental consulting services.

The complete updated Asbestos Management Plan for the Chatfield Public Schools can be found in the District office. The Management Plan can be viewed, without cost or restriction, during normal working hours. Copies can be obtained for a fee of \$.10 per page.

Any questions concerning this notice, or an explanation of our Asbestos Management Plan can be directed to Ed Harris, Superintendent of Chatfield Public Schools, at 507-867-4210.

PESTICIDE NOTICE

Minnesota schools are required to inform parents/guardians and school employees that they may request to be notified prior to pesticide application on school property. Pesticides include chemicals which are used to control insects, weeds, rodents or other pests as defined by the law (M.S.121A.30, Subd.9).

In order to provide the required information, schools must maintain a list of parents/guardians and school employees who request notification. Schools must also provide information about pesticides, and individual pesticide applications upon request. This is to include the name of the pesticide product, and the time and location of the planned application. An estimated schedule of pesticide applications is available for review or copying at the school office.

Pesticides and non-chemical treatments may be used in combination in and around schools for a variety of reasons, including the controls of pests which have the potential to bite, sting, spread disease, cause asthma, and/or trigger allergic reaction. Pesticides may also be used to prevent or control damage to materials within the school building or to the school building itself, or to control pests or weeds that are seen as a nuisance. The long-term effects on children from the application of such pesticides or the class of chemicals to which they belong may not be fully understood. Children may be more susceptible to pesticide than adults due to their smaller size and rapid growth and development. Also, their playful behavior may expose them to more pesticide residue. To limit the potential pesticide exposure, this school follows safety regulations to ensure pesticides are applied properly.

All pesticide products, which are used in and around school buildings, are required to be registered with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In addition, school employees and certified and licensed applicators are required by state and federal law to comply with all requirements of the pesticide label, including building sites, application rates, re-entry intervals, posting, use of personal protective equipment, use restrictions, and disposal on the product label.

To be notified of information pertaining to pesticide applications or any other questions regarding the District’s pest management practices may be directed to Ed Harris, Superintendent of Chatfield Public Schools, at 507-867-4210.

An estimated schedule for pesticide applications is available for review or copying at the Chatfield District office.