GOVERNOR MIFFLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATING, INSPIRING, & EMPOWERING
EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

LISA TEMPLIN HESS, ED.D.
SUPERINTENDENT
ERIN J. ANDERSON, ED.D.
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
TIMOTHY ZIEGLER
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

ANNUAL NOTICE:
Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

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 late 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, such as cancer and asbestosis.

In 1986, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), which requires schools to be inspected to identify any asbestos containing building materials. Suspected asbestos-containing building materials were located, sampled (or assumed) and rated according to condition and potential hazard. Every three years, Governor Mifflin School District has conducted a reinspection to determine whether the condition of the known or assumed asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) has changed and to make recommendations on managing or removing the ACBM. At the last reinspection conducted in August 2019, all materials listed in the Management Plan as asbestos containing (or assumed to be asbestos-containing) were inspected and found to be in good condition.

The law further requires an asbestos management plan to be in place by July 1989. Governor Mifflin School District developed a plan, as required, which has been continually updated. The plan has several ongoing requirements: publish a notification on management plan availability and the status of asbestos activities; educate and train its employees about asbestos and how to deal with it; notify short-term or temporary workers on the locations of the asbestos containing building materials; post warning labels in routine maintenance areas where asbestos was previously identified or assumed; follow set plans and procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of asbestos containing building materials; and survey the condition of these materials every six months to assure that they remain in good condition.

The following buildings contain no asbestos-containing building materials; therefore, no operations and maintenance programs or future inspections are required: Mifflin Park Elementary School and Governor Mifflin Athletic and Community Center. During the past year, asbestos-containing materials have been removed, encapsulated, or enclosed in the following buildings: Governor Mifflin High School, Governor Mifflin Middle School, and Cumru Elementary School. During the next year, we have plans to conduct asbestos related activities at Cumru Elementary School. It is the intention of the Governor Mifflin School District to comply with all federal and state regulations controlling asbestos and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure students and employees a healthy and safe environment in which to learn and work. You are welcome to review a copy of the asbestos management plan in the school district administrative office or administrative office of the school during regular business hours. Governor Mifflin School District's Director of Operations, Timothy Ziegler is our designated asbestos program coordinator, and all inquiries regarding the asbestos plan and asbestos-related issues should be directed to him at 610-775-1461 ext. 3014.