BERLIN BROTHERSVALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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"HOME OF THE MOUNTAINEERS"

Dr. Casey Long
Superintendent

"Educational Excellence, Community Engagement, Lifelong Success"

Rachel Prosser
Business Manager

August 26, 2026

Dear Parent or Guardian:

By law we are mandated to provide an update on the status of asbestos in the school district.

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 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, Berlin Brothersvalley School District has conducted a re-inspection to determine whether the condition of the known or assumed asbestos-containing buildings materials (ACBM) has changed and to make recommendations on managing or removing the ACBM. At the last re-inspection, conducted in October 2025, all materials listed in the Management Plan as asbestos-containing (or assumed to be asbestos-containing) were inspected and their condition did not warrant any further activities at the time (i.e. removal or encapsulation). The next re-inspection is scheduled for October 2028 and will be completed at that time.

The law further required an asbestos management plan to be in place by July 1989. Berlin Brothersvalley 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; follow set plans and procedures 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.

It is the intention of the Berlin Brothersvalley School District to comply with all federal and state regulations controlling asbestos and 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 office during regular business hours, which are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All inquiries regarding the asbestos plan and asbestos related issues should be directed to the Maintenance Office.

Sincerely,

Dr. Casey Long
Superintendent