

Adopted: 7/17/2012
Revised: 8/18/2026

Saint Paul Public Schools Policy

816.00

816.00 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

I. Policy Purpose

The District is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students, staff, and visitors. This policy establishes the framework for identifying, managing, and minimizing workplace hazards.

II. General Statement of Policy

The District shall maintain a comprehensive environmental health and safety program designed to comply with all federal, state, and local regulatory requirements.

1. This includes the maintenance of all required documentation, permits, and safety records.

Primary Areas of Oversight include:

- A. **Physical Hazards:** Confined spaces, fire safety, forklift safety, lockout/tagout (LOTO), underground storage tanks, and worker safety.
- B. **Chemical & Biological Hazards:** Blood-borne pathogens, chemical hygiene, Hazard Communication Standard (GHS), and infectious waste.
- C. **Environmental Hazards:** Asbestos (AHERA), indoor air quality, lead in water, and radon levels.
- D. **Personal Protection:** Respiratory protection, fall protection, and general Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

III. Compliance

The environmental health and safety program will maintain and ensure compliance within:

- A. **Federal Agencies:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).
- B. **State Agencies:** Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (MNDLI), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), and the State Fire Marshal (delegated to City of Saint Paul).

III. Resources

Program resources include:

- A. **Proactive Monitoring:** The District will conduct routine workplace safety inspections and surveillance to identify, monitor, and evaluate potential hazards before they result in injury or illness.
- B. **Training:** The District will provide mandated safety training for employees tailored to their specific roles and potential exposure levels.
- C. **Funding:** The Board of Education commits to providing the necessary financial resources to maintain compliance and facility safety.
- D. **Continuous Improvement:** The District will monitor and implement "good faith" efforts to comply with new or amended laws.
- E. **Best Practices:** In the absence of specific local or federal laws, the District will follow industry-standard "Best Practices" (e.g., ANSI or NIOSH standards) to manage hazards.

IV. Enforcement

All District employees and contractors are held accountable for the following:

- A. **Adherence:** Following all established safety protocols and work practices.
- B. **Reporting:** Immediately reporting unsafe conditions, "near-miss" incidents, or faulty equipment to a supervisor.
- C. **Participation:** Completing all required safety training and participating in emergency drills (fire, weather, lockdowns).
- D. **Feedback:** Reviewing safety protocols regularly and suggesting improvements to the environmental health and safety program.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

Minn. Stat. § 123B.57 Health and Safety Projects

CROSS REFERENCES:

807 MSBA/MASA Health and Safety Policy