

General Pesticide Notice for Parents and Guardians

Dear Parent and / or Guardians,

A Minnesota state law went into effect in the year 2000 that requires schools to inform parents and guardians if they apply certain pesticides on school property.

Specifically, this law requires schools that apply these pesticides to maintain an estimated schedule of pesticide applications and to make a schedule available to parents and guardians for review or copying at each school site. State law also requires that you be told that the long-term health effects on children from the application of such pesticides or the class of chemicals to which they belong may not be fully understood.

If you would like to be notified prior to pesticide applications made on days other than those specified in the estimated schedule, please contact the District Office or Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Merlin Strom at 354-2217.

Parents Right to Know Chapter 389, H.F. #3800

Notice of pesticide use must be provided no later than September 15 of each school year. This notice must be sent or provided for all parents, which informs them of the estimated schedule of all pesticide/chemical applications, both inside and outside, by applying these products. District # 146 makes every effort to make pesticide/chemical applications during the summer season or during the end of a school day in which school would not be in session on the following day. Normal applications of all products will follow label instruction and directions for use.

Asbestos Notice and Information

As a result of federal legislation (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (ALHERA)) each primary and secondary school in the nation is now required to complete a stringent inspection of asbestos and to develop a plan of management for all asbestos containing building materials. Barnesville Public Schools has a goal to be in full compliance with this law and is following the spirit, as well as, the letter of the law to this regard. As a matter of approved policy, the school district will continue to maintain a healthy and safe environment for community's youth and for district employees.

In keeping with this legislation, all school district owned or leased buildings, including support buildings, were inspected by accredited and certified inspectors. Based on this inspection the school prepared and the state approved comprehensive plan to manage the safe and responsible handling of the asbestos located within its buildings.

Federal law requires a periodic walk-through, commonly termed surveillance, every six months of each area containing asbestos. In addition, the law requires all buildings to be re-inspected every three years after an approved management plan has been implemented. The management plan for each school, high school and elementary, is available for public inspection and by contacting Merlin Strom at 354-2217.

Indoor Air Quality Parent Notification:

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Barnesville Public Schools has in place a program to monitor and improve indoor air quality at our school. The district advocates a healthy school environment conducive to learning for all students, and productively for teachers and support staff. The IAQ Management Plan implemented follows the guidelines provided by the Minnesota Department of Education and the "Tools for Schools" support document developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Periodic and annual walk-through of the school buildings will be performed by the Indoor Air Quality Coordinator, Merlin Strom. The purpose of the walk-through is to evaluate school facilities for obvious water intrusion, structural problems, ventilation, overall cleanliness, and to monitor the IAQ program in general.

The District's response to parental inquiries will be timely and direct. Questions are always welcome and should be directed to Merlin Strom at 354-2217. ISD 3146 accepts the responsibility for monitoring the IAQ and will / has conducted teacher surveys, non-certified support staff surveys, walk-throughs, building maintenance surveys, ventilation checks.

Barnesville Public Schools is proud to be providing leadership role in supporting a safe, comfortable, and productive environment for students and staff so that we can accomplish and achieve our primary mission- to educate students. Our school district will continue to follow EPA guidance to improve IAQ by preventing as many concerns as possible.

Omnibus Data Practices Act

Among the many changes that occur in schools is the addition of a requirement that a secondary school institution must release to the military recruiting officers the names, addresses, and home telephone number of students in grades 11 and 12 within 60 days after the date of the request unless parents and students refuse this release. District patrons are hereby notified that the parents or the student have the right to refuse this data release, but the refusal must be submitted to the building principal. The notification or request for refusal shall be writing. Additional questions or concerns please contact the high school office at 354-2228.

Minnesota Care Provision 2008

Does your child have health insurance? If not, Minnesota Health Care Programs have free or reduced cost health insurance for children and families who qualify. Minnesota Care has a monthly premium based on household income and Medical Assistance has no monthly premium. Household income requirements and applications may be found on the Internet at www.dhs.state.mn.us/healthcare or call 1-877-KIDS-NOW or the following County Social Service agencies Clay @ 218-299-5200 or 1-800-757-3880, Ottertail @ 218-998-8230, or Wilkin @ 218-643-7161. Household income limits are valid until June 30, 2010.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

20 U.S.C. § 1232g. Regulations: 34 CFR part 99

FERPA provides that a local education agency (LEA) that receives Department funds may not have a policy or practice of denying parents the right to:

- Inspect and review education records (34 CFR § 99.10)
- Seek to amend education records (34 CFR § 99.20 and 99.22)
- Consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records except as specified by law (CFR 34 § 99.30 and 99.31)

These rights transfer to the student when she / he turns 18 years of age or enters a post secondary educational institution at any age as an “eligible student.”

LEA’s must annually notify parents and eligible students of their rights under FERPA 34 CFR § 99.7.

The annual notification must include the following:

- The procedure to inspect and review education records;
- The procedure to request amendment of education records;
- A specification of criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest if the agency or institution discloses or intends to disclose personally identifiable information to school officials without consent;
- The right of parents to file a complaint with the Family Compliance Office in the Department

Parents Right to Know

School districts are required to notify parents of All children in All Title I schools in the beginning of the each school year, that parents have the right to request and receive timely information on the professional qualifications of the students classroom teachers. This requirement applies to all parents of the children in the school- whether or not the students receive Title I services both targeted or schoolwide. Section 111 (h) (6) (A)

When the parent of a child requests information on their child’s classroom teachers professional qualifications, districts must respond in a timely manner, to the requested information, at a minimum, report the following: a.) whether or not the teacher has met Minnesota licensing requirements for the grade level and academic core they teach; b.) whether or not the teacher is teaching under a variance status; c.) the education level and subject area of the teachers college degree major and any graduate degree or certificate held; d.) whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications.

Schools that receive Title I funds shall provide to each parent: a.) Information on the level of achievement of the parent’s child on the state academic assessment. b.) Timely notice that parents child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

All information provided to parents shall be in an uniform and understandable format and to the extent practical provided in a language that parents can understand.