

EXPLANATION: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

House Bill 2120 (2020) included a provision allowing schools to test potable water in buildings constructed before 1996 that serve students under first grade (pre-K and kindergarten). The statute states that "subject to appropriations," the district may test the water. Schools and districts are already permitted to test their water for lead without any state appropriations. Perhaps the bill's authors plan to request an appropriation to cover the cost of testing at another time. "Subject to appropriations" may also mean that test results must be released only if schools or districts receive state money for the collection and testing.

If the results exceed recommended standards, the district must notify parents/guardians and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. This creates a dilemma. Schools and districts do not have to test, but if they do and the results are not good, they must disclose them and need to take action to correct the problem. Because mitigation can be expensive and release of test results could be embarrassing, this could be a disincentive to test.

Hopefully, schools and districts have already identified and corrected any problems with potable water. If not, MSBA encourages districts to consider testing. While there are no state funds available, there is a federal grant available. For more information see <https://health.mo.gov/living/environment/wiin-grant/index.php>.

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Critical

REFERENCE COPY

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

To promote the health and safety of the students, staff and patrons of the district, and to ensure that hazardous materials are handled appropriately, the board of education of the Platte County R-3 School District directs the administration, under the guidance of the superintendent, to develop procedures that address the purchase, storage, handling, transportation and disposal of hazardous materials for all school facilities and operations of the district.

The board directs district staff to avoid using hazardous materials to the extent feasible and to minimize the quantities of such substances used by or stored in the school district. In addition, district employees shall follow the procedures developed by the administration and shall take the necessary precautions recommended by manufacturers' warnings when handling or transporting hazardous materials.

The procedures developed by the administration shall comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations that pertain to the proper management of hazardous materials. The superintendent or designee is responsible for identifying any substances that may be hazardous and ensuring such substances are properly disposed of in a state-approved facility or landfill.

Emergency Plans

The superintendent or designee will include in district emergency plans appropriate responses and evacuation plans for situations where hazardous materials threaten the health or safety of persons on district property or when hazardous materials on district property threaten the health or safety of people in the surrounding area.

Asbestos

The district will use appropriately accredited professionals and laboratories and will follow all federal and state laws regarding the identification, management and abatement of asbestos in district buildings.

The superintendent will designate an employee to supervise the implementation of the district's asbestos management plan and federal laws regarding asbestos management in the district. ~~The employee~~ As required by law, the district will ensure that designated ~~will~~ employees receive adequate training ~~to perform his or her~~ in the performance of their duties ~~as required by law~~.

Hazardous Chemicals

The superintendent or designee will provide information to district employees about the hazardous chemicals used in their workplaces by developing, implementing and maintaining a written chemical hazard communication program. Employees will be provided appropriate training and safety devices when handling these materials.

Lead

The superintendent or designee is directed to identify and develop plans to eliminate all potential sources of lead poisoning from district property. The board encourages the superintendent or designee to include in the district's lead eradication program periodic testing of drinking water. If lead levels exceed recommended standards, the district will provide notification to the school community as required by law.

Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted: 12/16/1999

Revised: 08/17/2000; 05/19/2016;

Legal Refs: §§ 643.225, 701.200, RSMo.
The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2641 - 2656
Asbestos School Hazard Abatement Reauthorization Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 4011 - 4022
29 C.F.R. § 1910.1200
40 C.F.R. Part 763

Platte County R-3 School District, Platte City, Missouri