

Insects, rodents, and other pests can be a significant problem for both people and property. Many of the pesticides that are commonly used in pest control may pose a potential risk to human health and to the environment. The Transylvania County Board of Education (the "Board") is committed to maintaining a safe educational environment while also protecting the physical condition of school facilities. To this end, the Board will utilize *Integrated Pest Management* (IPM) programs and incorporate IPM procedures into the maintenance program conducted by the school system. The Superintendent will appoint an IPM supervisor ("designee") to facilitate the use of IPM techniques. As necessary, the Superintendent or designee will develop administrative procedures for the IPM program.

A. OVERVIEW OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

IPM is a comprehensive approach that combines effective, economic, environmentally sound, and socially acceptable methods to prevent and solve pest problems. IPM emphasizes prevention while providing a decision-making process to determine the need for pest suppression and the appropriate control tactics to remedy the problem.

The school system's IPM program will strive to do the following:

1. Minimize potential health, environmental, and economic risks from pests or from the use of pest control methods;
2. Minimize loss or damage to school structures or property from pests or from the use of pest control methods;
3. Minimize the risk of pests spreading into the community; and,
4. Enhance the quality of facility use for the school and community.

Pesticides will not be used based *solely* on a schedule. The Superintendent or designee will determine how and when pesticides need to be used to achieve pest management goals.

B. USE OF IPM IN FACILITY AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

The school system shall include pest management considerations in facilities planning and maintenance. The designee, in conjunction with the school system's contracted pest management professional, will recommend to the Superintendent any landscaping changes, structural modifications, and sanitation changes needed to reduce or prevent pest problems. The Superintendent will review such recommendations and may authorize action to address necessary minor changes in a timely manner, as the budget permits. For significant changes or changes that require a significant expenditure of funds, the Superintendent will recommend changes to the Board for approval.

C. ~~PROVIDING INFORMATION ON IPM TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY~~

~~Staff, students, pest managers, parents, and the public will be informed about potential school pest problems, school IPM policies and procedures, and their respective roles in achieving the desired pest management objectives. Each year, the principal or designee will ensure that the student handbook includes the schedule of anticipated pesticide use on school property, or a statement thereof, and a notice to parents of their right to request notification of nonscheduled pesticide use. Notice of nonscheduled pesticide use should be made at least 72 hours in advance, to the extent possible, and may be made by telephone, email, or other reliable means of communication. The notification requirements under this subsection do not apply to the application of antimicrobial cleansers, disinfectants, self-contained baits, crack and crevice treatments, or any pesticide products classified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as U.S.E.P.A. Toxicity Class IV (“relatively nontoxic”).~~

D. ~~RECORDKEEPING~~

~~Records of all pest management activities must be maintained, including inspection records, monitoring records, pest surveillance data sheets or other indicators of pest populations, and a record of structural repairs and modifications. If pesticides are used, records must be maintained on site to meet the requirements of the state regulatory agency and the Board.~~

~~Legal References: N. C. Gen. Stat. §§ 115C-12(34)(d) and (e), 36, and 47(47)~~

~~Cross References: Board Policy FEC (“Facility Development Plans and Specifications”)~~

~~APPROVED BY BOARD
AND EFFECTIVE 5/21/07
REVISED 11/21/11~~