

## Annual Notification of Asbestos Related Activities and Availability of Asbestos Documents

To: Parent or Guardian, Teachers, Building Occupants, and Employee Organizations:

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 1970's contained some asbestos. Intact and undisturbed asbestos materials generally do not pose a health risk. Asbestos materials, however, can become hazardous when, if due to damage or deterioration over time, they release fibers. If the 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, TST BOCES has conducted a reinspection to determine whether the condition of the known or assumed asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) has changed and to make recommendations on managing or removing the ACBM. At the last reinspection conducted on June 14, 2016, all materials listed in the Management Plan as asbestos containing (or assumed to be asbestos-containing) were inspected and found to be in good condition.

The law further requires an asbestos management plan to be in place by July 1989. TST BOCES 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; notify short-term or temporary workers on the locations of the asbestos containing building materials; post warning labels in routine maintenance areas where asbestos was previously identified or assumed; follow set plans and procedures designed 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.

Storage Building H and C Building on the TST BOCES campus contain no suspect asbestos-containing building materials; therefore, no operations and maintenance programs or future inspections are required in those buildings. During the next year, asbestos abatement may be undertaken in some campus buildings to remove thermal system insulation, transite duct-work and or floor tile in areas planned for renovations. This work will take place during school vacation periods.

It is the intention of TST BOCES to comply with all federal and state regulations controlling asbestos and to 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 plans which are located in the office of David Pitcher, Director of Facilities and TST BOCES AHERA LEA Designee during regular business hours. All inquiries regarding the asbestos plan and asbestos-related issues should be directed to David at 607-257-1551, ext. 6001.

***Together we learn, lead, support and serve***