Environmental Safety

The Governing Board recognizes its obligation to provide a safe and healthy environment at school facilities for students, staff, and community members. The Superintendent or designee shall regularly assess school facilities to identify environmental health risks and shall develop strategies to prevent and/or mitigate environmental hazards. He/she shall consider the proven effectiveness of various options, anticipated short-term and long-term costs and/or savings to the district, and the potential impact on staff and students, including the impact on student achievement and attendance.

Such strategies shall focus on maximizing healthy indoor air quality; monitoring the quality of outdoor air and adjusting outdoor activities as necessary; reducing exposure to vehicle emissions; minimizing exposure to lead and mercury; reducing the risk of unsafe drinking water; inspecting and properly abating asbestos; appropriately storing, using, and disposing of potentially hazardous substances; using effective least toxic pest management practices; reducing the risk of foodborne illness; and addressing any other environmental hazards identified during facilities inspections.

In developing strategies to promote healthy school environments, the Superintendent or designee may consult and collaborate with local environmental protection agencies, health agencies, water boards, and other community organizations.
The Superintendent or designee shall provide the district's maintenance and facilities staff, bus drivers, food services staff, teachers, and other staff as appropriate with professional development regarding their responsibilities in implementing strategies to improve and maintain environmentally safe and healthy schools.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the Board, staff, parents/guardians, students, and/or governmental agencies, as appropriate, if an environmental hazard is discovered at a school site. The notification shall provide information about the district's actions to remedy the hazard and may recommend health screening of staff and students.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
17002 Definition of "good repair"
17070.75 Facilities inspection
17582 Deferred maintenance fund
17590 Asbestos abatement fund
17608-17614 Healthy Schools Act of 2000, least toxic pest management practices
32080-32081 Carbon monoxide devices
32240-32245 Lead-Safe Schools Protection Act
48980.3 Notification of pesticides
49410-49410.7 Asbestos materials containment or removal

FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL CODE
11401-12408 Pest control operations and agricultural chemicals
13180-13188 Healthy Schools Act of 2000, least toxic pest management practices

GOVERNMENT CODE
3543.2 Scope of representation; right to negotiate safety conditions

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
105400-105430 Indoor environmental quality
113700-114437 California Retail Food Code, sanitation and safety requirements
116277 Lead testing of potable water at schools and requirements to remedy

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
14010 Standards for school site selection

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8
337-339 Hazardous substances list
340-340.2 Occupational safety and health, rights of employees
1528-1537 Construction safety orders; exposure to hazards
5139-5223 Control of hazardous substances

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 13
2025 Retrofitting of diesel school buses
2480 Vehicle idling

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17
35001-36100 Lead abatement services

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 22
64670-64679 Lead and copper in drinking water

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24
915.1-915.7 California Building Standards Code; carbon monoxide devices
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 7
136-136y Use of pesticides
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 15
2601-2629 Control of toxic substances
2641-2656 Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
1758 Food safety and inspections
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 40
141.1-141.723 Drinking water standards
745.61-745.339 Lead-based paint standards
763.80-763.99 Asbestos-containing materials in schools
763.120-763.123 Asbestos worker protections

Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Indoor Air Quality: Governing Board Actions for Creating Healthy School Environments, Policy Brief, July 2008
Asthma Management in the Schools, Policy Brief, March 2008
Food Safety Requirements, Fact Sheet, October 2007
Sun Safety in Schools, Policy Brief, July 2006
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS
School Site Selection and Approval Guide, 2000
Indoor Air Quality, A Guide for Educators, 1995
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES PUBLICATIONS
Report to the Legislature: Lead Hazards in California's Public Elementary Schools and Child Care Facilities, April 1998
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY: AIR RESOURCES BOARD PUBLICATIONS
CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD PUBLICATIONS
DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT PUBLICATIONS
K-12 Occupancy Classification and Load Factors, IR A-26, rev. April 18, 2012
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY PUBLICATIONS
Healthy School Environments Assessment Tool, rev. 2015
Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools, rev. 2009
Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings, September 2008
The ABCs of Asbestos in Schools, rev. August 2003
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
AirNow: http://www.airnow.gov
American Association of School Administrators: http://www.aasa.org
California Air Resources Board: http://www.arb.ca.gov
California Building Standards: http://www.bsc.ca.gov/codes.aspx
California Department of Education, Health and Safety: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/fa/hs
California Department of Pesticide Regulation: http://www.cdpr.ca.gov
California Department of Public Health: http://www.cdph.ca.gov
California State Water Resources Control Board: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: http://www.cdc.gov
National Center for Environmental Health: http://www.cdc.gov/ncce
Occupational Safety and Health Administration: http://www.osha.gov
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:  http://www.epa.gov

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Barbara, California       June 17, 2008; October 23, 2018; January 15, 2019