

Cocalico School District Pest Management Statement

Effective January 1, 2003, the Cocalico School District adopted the provisions of ACT 35/36 2002 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

The Cocalico School District uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for managing insects, rodents, and weeds. Our goal is to protect every student and staff member from pesticide exposure by using the IPM approach to pest management.

Our IPM approach focuses on making the facilities and grounds an unfavorable habitat for these pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. We will accomplish this through routine cleaning and regular maintenance. We consistently monitor the school buildings and grounds to detect any pests that are present. Our Buildings and Grounds Department, facility occupants and an independent pest control contractor conduct the pest monitoring. Pest sightings are reported to our IPM coordinator who then evaluates the pest problem and determines the appropriate pest management technique to properly address the situation. The techniques can include increased sanitation, modifying storage practices, sealing entry points and/or physically removing the pests, etc.

Occasionally, it may be imperative to use pesticides that are registered by the Environmental Protection Agency to manage a pest problem. A pesticide will only be used when necessary and will not be routinely applied. When a pesticide becomes necessary, the school will try to use the least toxic, yet effective product. Applications will be made only when unauthorized persons do not have access or permission to the area(s) being treated. Notices will be posted in the area(s) 72 hours prior to application and stay posted for two days following the application (except in emergency situations only).

Parents and guardians of students enrolled in the school district may request advance notification of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notification, you must be placed on the school's notification registry. In order to be placed on this registry, you need to notify the district in writing. Each year, the district will prepare a new notification registry. If you desire to be on the registry continually, you need to notify the district in writing on an annual basis.

If a pesticide application must be made in order to control an emergency pest situation, notice will be provided via telephone to any parent, guardian or staff member who has requested such notification in writing.

Exemptions to this notification include disinfectants and antimicrobial products, self-contained baits placed in areas that are inaccessible to students/staff, and gel type baits placed in cracks, crevices or voids.

If you have any questions, please contact:
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