

LABORATORY CHEMICALS

The Board of Education believes that effective precautions and work practice controls are the best methods for the elimination of injuries to employees from chemicals utilized in a laboratory setting. In order to prevent injuries which may result from exposure to potentially hazardous chemicals under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency, workers have the right to know the health hazards associated with their exposure to toxic substances so that they may:

- have the right to make informed decisions about the potential health risks
- observe any relationships between exposure and subsequent health problems

Consistent with this belief and with federal and state regulations, the Superintendent of Schools shall establish procedures to inform employees of:

1. the contents of OSHA standard 1910.1450
2. the location and availability of the employer's Chemical Hygiene Plan
3. the permissible exposure limits for OSHA regulated substances or recommended exposure limits for other hazardous chemicals where there is no applicable OSHA standard
4. signs and symptoms associated with exposures to hazardous chemicals used in the laboratory, and
5. the location of known reference material on the hazards, safe handling, storage and disposal of hazardous chemicals found in the laboratory including, but not limited to MSDS received from chemical suppliers

In addition, the procedures will involve employee training which includes:

1. methods and observations that may be used to detect the presence or release of a hazardous chemical
2. the physical and health hazards of chemicals in the work area, and
3. the measures employees can take to protect themselves from these potential hazards, including specific procedures the employer has implemented to protect employees from exposure to hazardous chemicals, such as the appropriate work practices, emergency procedures, and personal protective equipment

LEGAL REFERENCE: 29 CFR Part 1910.1450

APPROVED: BOARD OF EDUCATION

DATE: December 7, 1993