



Port Jervis

SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Parents and Staff:

During the Summer 2008, asbestos abatement will be performed at the Route 209 Complex (elementary and high school), and the Port Jervis Middle School.

Abatement protocols on the removal of asbestos and asbestos containing materials in public and private elementary and secondary schools are very strict and very clear. Precautionary measures to assure safety include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. All asbestos abatement projects shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws. Applicable federal and state laws include, but are not limited to, the *New York State Department of Labor Industrial Code Rule 56 (12 NYCRR 56)* and the federal *Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)*, 40 CFR Part 763.
2. Notification/signs will be posted to all approaches of the affected workspace.
3. The removal of asbestos defined by *New York State Regulation (12 NYCRR 56)* as large and small projects shall not be performed while the building is occupied. Please note that the term building, as referenced in this section, means a wing or major section of a building that can be completely sealed from the rest of the building. The isolated portion must contain exits that do not pass through the occupied portion and ventilation systems must be physically separated and sealed at the isolation barrier.
4. The work area will be completely sealed off from the rest of the building.
5. All ventilation equipment in the affected area(s) will be closed and sealed.
6. Air testing to detect asbestos fibers will be done as per federal and state guidelines prior to and after the abatement procedures.
7. As required by law, the area(s) where abatement takes place will be completely cleaned and tested before re-entry by the public.
8. Air testing quality results will be reviewed by a private agency prior to re-entry by the public.
9. All testing results must meet the government standards for safety.
10. Additional information on the AHERA Act (Code of Regulations, 1998 Edition, Superintendent of Public Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402; 1998) can be obtained.

This document is available at the Office of Facilities Planning Education Building Annex, Room 1060, State Education Department, Albany, NY 12234.

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming abatement project, please contact: Lorelei Case, Assistant Superintendent for Business at 858-3180.

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