



Date: September 20, 2019

To: HCPSS Employees

From: Scott Washington *sww*  
Acting Chief Operating Officer

Re: **Asbestos Management Plan Annual Notification**

This letter serves as notification, as required by law, of the availability for public review of Asbestos Management Plans for Howard County Public Schools.

In October 1986, the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) was enacted. Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos in schools. These regulations required school systems to inspect their facilities for asbestos containing building materials, develop asbestos management plans, and implement appropriate response actions.

The Howard County Public School System's program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in the asbestos management plan for each building. These plans contain information on the initial inspections, response actions, and post-response action activities and are located in each school's administrative office. A copy of each plan is also available in the Office of Safety, Environment, and Risk Management located at the Board of Education. These plans are available for public review during school and Board business hours. The plans, however, may not leave the office areas.

In summary, the Howard County Public School System is taking a positive approach in managing asbestos containing building materials. Schools constructed after October 1988 are not to contain asbestos building materials. The majority of asbestos removal is and has been completed in conjunction with school renovation projects. As a result of systemic renovations over the years, HCPSS has a minimal amount of asbestos containing material remaining in our buildings in the form of flooring and a few boilers containing internal asbestos containing components. Asbestos removal projects are scheduled when the school facility is closed, such as summer break.

The Howard County Public School System will continue to address matters through the asbestos management plans. If you have questions regarding the content of these plans, please direct them to the Office of Environment at (410) 313-6699 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.