

IMPORTANT NOTES

for Our Parents & School Neighbors

Insect and Pest Management

As a part of the Holland Public Schools' pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied in order to maintain the health and well being of our students and staff. The district first attempts to remedy pest problems without the use of pesticides. If the problem persists, then the "least toxic" pest control strategy is used.

You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and buildings. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application.

Holland Public Schools has adopted an Integrated Pest Management program. Inherent with this are the district's efforts to reduce pesticide use as much as possible. While it may occasionally be necessary to apply a pesticide, these will only be used as a last resort. This program does not rely on routine pesticide applications to resolve problems. We use various techniques such as habitat alteration, sanitation, mechanical means, exclusion, etc. to prevent pest from becoming a problem.

You will receive advanced notice of the application of a pesticide, other than bait or gel formulation at your child's school. This advanced notice of the application will be given 48 hours before the application. The law requires us to do this notification by using two methods. The first method required by the law is the posting at entrances to your child's school. The second method we are going to use is the posting in a common area located by the main office of the school. Parents are also entitled to receive this notice by first-class United States mail postmarked at least three days before the application. If you would like to be notified by mail please contact the Facilities Department at 494-2960. Please give your name, mailing address and what school your child attends.

In an emergency (for example, bees nest), pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice fol-

lowing any such application.

You may review our IPM program or pesticide application records for your child's school by contacting Brett Roach, the district's director of facilities, at 494-2960 or at broach@hollandpublicschools.org. This number or email may also be used when school is not in regular session.

Asbestos Management Plan

In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, in the fall of 1988, Holland Public Schools had inspections performed in each of the district's school buildings for asbestos-containing building materials. The inspection findings and management plans have been on file in each administrative office since that time.

All work occurring in our schools since 1988 has been performed in accordance with state and federal regulations.

Anyone may view our asbestos management plans during normal school hours. Please call Brett Roach at 494-2960 if you have any questions.

Student Records Regulations

In compliance with federal regulations, the Holland Public School District has established the following guidelines concerning student records:

Each student's records will be kept in a confidential file located at the student's school office. The information in a student's record file will be available for review only by the parents or legal guardian of a student, adult student (18 years or older), and those designated by federal law or district regulations.

A parent, guardian or adult student has the right to request a change or addition to a student's records and to either obtain a hearing with district officials or file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if not satisfied with the accuracy of the records or with the district's compliance with the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

Each year the district will provide public notice to students and their parents of its intent to make available, upon request, certain information known as "directory information." The Board designates as student "directory information" the following: a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, photograph, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, height and weight, if a member of an athletic team, dates of attendance, date of graduation, awards received, or any other information which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy, if disclosed.

Parents, guardians and adult students may refuse to allow the district to disclose any or all of such "directory information" upon written notification to the district within 30 days after receipt of this public notice. Parents, guardians and adult students may also request that the district does not release information to military recruiters without prior written consent.

No liability shall attach to any member, officer or employee of this district specifically as a consequence of permitting access or furnishing student records in accordance with the school district's policy and regulations.

Family Educational Right to Privacy

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law which stipulates the maintenance and disclosure of students' educational records in public schools. Every parent (or student who is 18 or older) has these rights under FERPA:

- to inspect and review their student's educational records
- to request the amendment of their student's educational records — in order to correct inaccurate or misleading information
- to consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information in the student's educational records, except to the extent that disclosure is allowed by law without consent
- to obtain a copy of the district's FERPA policy

- to register any complaints regarding the district's FERPA procedures with the U.S. Department of Education

Dual Enrollment

Seniors and juniors can further their education at a post-secondary institution with assistance in tuition and some fees. To qualify, a student must meet certain requirements including the taking of all MEAP tests and passing the MEAP test in the subject area of the dual enrollment class, if applicable. There are some restrictions on which courses qualify. It is required for interested students to complete a "Dual Enrollment Application" and a "Request for Release of Student Records" form and be approved by the principal and assistant superintendent. Complete details are available from the Counseling Services Office at Holland High.

Morning Books, Breakfast and Bus Program

For parents with K-5th graders who need additional time in the morning, children may participate in the Books, Breakfast and Bus program. This before school program — with a focus on literacy, nutrition and safety — is available 30 minutes prior to the start time of the school day. Supervision is available at this time. Please note that school and playground supervision is not provided before this time. Information may be obtained in school offices.

NCLB School Year Statement

The No Child Left Behind Federal Act of 2001 requires all schools which receive Title 1 funds to provide information to parents concerning the four professional qualifications of classroom teachers.

Title 1 buildings in Holland Public Schools include Lakeview, Maplewood, Jefferson, Holland Heights, Van Raalte and East K-8. Every teacher in each of these schools meets both the highly qualified and certified requirements of NCLB.