

## **Notifications Regarding Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act**

### **Salina USD 305**

**July 2019**

In 1986 Congress enacted legislation called the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (referred to as AHERA). The purpose of the act is to determine the extent of use of asbestos and develop proper solutions to address its existence in buildings. This letter is being sent to you in compliance with AHERA regulations and to provide information on asbestos in our schools. No action on the part of recipients of the letter is necessary.

To give you some background, asbestos has been used as a building material for many years. It is a naturally occurring mineral that is mined primarily in Canada, South Africa and the U.S.S.R. Asbestos properties made it an ideal building material for insulating, sound absorption, decorative plasters, fireproofing, and a variety of miscellaneous uses. There have been over 3,000 different products made using asbestos materials. EPA began action to limit uses of asbestos production in 1973, and most uses of asbestos products as building materials were banned in 1978.

As required by AHERA, our facilities were inspected by a certified asbestos inspector. The inspector located, sampled and rated the condition and hazard potential of all material in our facilities suspected of containing asbestos. Inspection and laboratory analysis records were then developed into an asbestos management plan by a certified management planner.

The asbestos management plan for our facilities includes: this notification letter, education and training of our custodial and maintenance employees, and a set of plans and procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of the asbestos containing materials and to provide for regular surveillance of the asbestos-containing materials.

A copy of the asbestos management plan is available for inspection in each school office and in the USD #305 Maintenance and Operations Office during regular office hours. All inquiries regarding the plan should be directed to the Maintenance and Operations Department. The telephone number is 785-309-4710.

Salina USD 305 has implemented the required asbestos management plan; however, we are intent on not only complying with, but exceeding federal, state and local regulations in this area. We plan on taking whatever steps necessary to insure our students and our employees have a healthy, safe environment in which to learn and work.