

# SOUTH COAST

## EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT

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South Branch Office  
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[www.scesd.k12.or.us](http://www.scesd.k12.or.us)

September 22, 2021

Dear Parents, Teachers, Employee's, and Building Occupants and Organizations:


Asbestos was used extensively in building materials through the late 1970s and early 1980s for its binding, insulating, sound and fire-retardant properties. Most of the buildings including commercial, residential and government structures had various materials that contained asbestos in multiple products. Since the early 1980s the government has created regulations to remove the asbestos from those materials manufactured in the United States and has enacted regulations to remove those materials from our environment in a safe manner. In the school system it is regulated by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) through a series of rules called AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986). The materials are safe if intact and undamaged, once they are damaged, they can become hazardous. AHERA regulates when and how Asbestos Containing Materials are handled in the school system.

The South Coast Educational Services District offices in Coos Bay holds classes, evaluates students and frequently has students in the building, therefore an AHERA inspection was conducted and our AHERA Asbestos Management Plan implemented in November of 1988. Since the original inspection there have been multiple changes to the building and the large majority of Asbestos Containing Materials have been removed. There are currently 2 locations with known asbestos containing materials and both areas are controlled by the Maintenance staff and not frequented without the maintenance supervisor's knowledge. The materials are visually inspected monthly, semiannually and 3-year periods as directed by AHERA guidelines. At the last re-inspection, all materials listed in the Management Plans as asbestos containing (or assumed to be asbestos containing) were inspected and found to be generally in good overall condition.

The plans have several ongoing requirements: publish a notification on management plan availability and the status of asbestos activities; educate and train its employees about asbestos and how to deal with it; notify short-term or temporary workers on the locations of the asbestos containing building materials; post warning labels in routine maintenance areas where asbestos was previously identified or assumed; follow set plans and procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of asbestos containing building materials; and survey the condition of these materials every six (6) months to assure that they remain in good condition. It is the intention of the South Coast ESD to comply with all federal and state regulations controlling asbestos and to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure students and employees a healthy and safe environment in which to learn and to work.

You are welcome to call (541-266-3951) and set up an appointment review a copy of the asbestos management plan in the administrative office during regular office hours. Mr. Baumer, Maintenance Supervisor, is our designated asbestos program coordinator, and all inquiries regarding the asbestos plan and asbestos-related issues should be directed to him at [michaelb@scesd.k12.or.us](mailto:michaelb@scesd.k12.or.us) or 541-266-3955.

Respectfully

  
Interim Superintendent Charis McGaughy  
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