CHEMICAL HAZARDS

The Saco School Department is committed to providing a safe environment for students and employees. It is the policy of the Saco School Department to follow safe practices in regard to the storage and handling of hazardous chemicals in its schools. The school unit will comply with all applicable Maine and federal laws and regulations concerning hazardous chemicals.

The Superintendent will be responsible for developing a Chemical Hygiene Plan* that includes procedures relevant to the identification, purchase**, storage, inventory, handling, and disposal of hazardous chemicals, maintenance of material safety data sheets (MSDS), and for ensuring that employees are provided required training and information concerning hazardous chemicals used in the schools. The Superintendent may delegate responsibilities associated with Plan development to school system staff, as appropriate or, with the approval of the Board, to a professional consultant.

A "Hazardous Chemical Screening Process" is to be established in each school administrative unit to review and approve the purchase of any hazardous chemical required by any department for academic or service functions.

The Superintendent/designee will appoint a Chemical Hygiene Officer for the school unit. The Chemical Hygiene Officer will have the primary responsibility for implementing the school unit's Chemical Hygiene Plan. The person appointed Chemical Hygiene Officer should be familiar with State and federal regulations pertaining to laboratory and chemical safety and the chemicals used in the schools.

The Chemical Hygiene Office shall achieve such certification and/or attend such training as may be mandated by the Maine Department of Education or other State agencies.

Legal Reference: 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1200
26 M.R.S.A. § 565
Ch. 2 § 179 (Dept. of Prof. Regulation Rule)
Ch. 161 (Dept. of Educ. Rule)
Commissioner's Administrative Letter No. 33, June 9, 2005
(Chemicals in Schools)

Cross Reference: EBCA – Crisis Response Plan

Adopted: 2/14/06