

CRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Department of Buildings and Grounds
132 Thomas Street
Cranford, New Jersey 07016

August, 2011

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

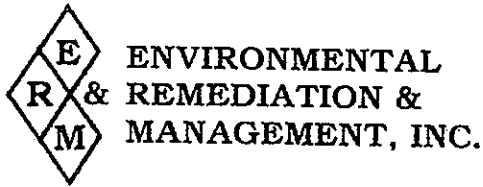
In the past, asbestos was used extensively in building materials because of its insulating, sound absorbing, and fire retarding capabilities. Virtually any building constructed before the late 1970s contained some asbestos. Intact and undisturbed asbestos materials generally do not pose a health risk. Asbestos materials, however, can become hazardous when, due to damage or deterioration over time, they release fibers. If the fibers are inhaled, they can lead to health problems, such as cancer and asbestosis.

In 1986, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) which requires schools to be inspected to identify any asbestos containing building materials. Suspected asbestos-containing building materials were located, sampled (or assumed) and rated according to condition and potential hazard. Every three years, The Cranford Public School District has conducted a re-inspection to determine whether the condition of the known or assumed asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) has changed and to make recommendations on managing or removing the ACBM. At the last re-inspection conducted, all materials listed in the Management Plan as asbestos containing (or assumed to be asbestos-containing) were inspected and found to be in good condition.

The law further requires an asbestos management plan to be in place by July 1989. The Cranford Public School District developed a plan, as required, which has been continually updated. The plan has 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 months to assure that they remain in good condition.

During the past year, asbestos containing building materials have been removed, encapsulated or enclosed from various district facilities (see attached letter). It is the intention of the Cranford Public School district 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 work. You are welcome to review a copy of the asbestos management plan in the school district administrative office of each school during regular business hours.

Environmental Remediation and Management Inc., Trenton, New Jersey has been designated as our program coordinator, and all inquiries regarding the asbestos plan and asbestos related issues should be directed to them at (609) 259-8077.



August 8, 2011

To Parent Teacher & Employee Organizations:

The Cranford Board of Education has contracted with Environmental Remediation & Management Inc. to act as their "Designated Person" as defined under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) of 1986. AHERA requires that all educational facilities be inspected for asbestos – containing materials and develop a remedial plan of action on or before May 9, 1989. In addition, each educational facility shall reassess all identified asbestos – containing materials or materials assumed to be asbestos, at least once every six months (periodic surveillance) and re-inspect those facilities every three years.

The Cranford Board of Education is in compliance with these requirements. The most recent Tri-annual re-inspection was performed in June, 2011. The next "periodic surveillance" inspection is scheduled for November, 2011.

Following each inspection, appropriate remedial actions are recommended to the Board of Education by an accredited Asbestos Management Planner. The remedial plans of action and recommended schedules for implementation (Asbestos Management Plans) are available for review at the Cranford Administrative Office, as well as in each school office.

This summer, an asbestos abatement effort was undertaken in the Bloomingdale Elementary School. The abatement took place in the tunnel and associated adjacent spaces, relating to the renovation. The abatement activities were performed in accordance with all applicable State and Federal rules and regulations. The details of these abatement efforts can be viewed within the Asbestos Management Plans.

We will continue to keep you informed of our AHERA compliance.

Respectfully Yours,

Cathy DiNardo

Designated Person on behalf
of the Cranford Board of Education