

Town of Needham
Department of Public Facilities

Memo to: Principals, Faculty and Parents

From: Wayne Whisler

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Reference: Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

On October 22, 1986, President Reagan signed into law an amendment to the Toxic Substance Control Act requiring schools to determine the presence of asbestos containing building materials in all school buildings. That amendment, called the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) required that all school buildings be visually inspected by accredited inspectors and that bulk samples of suspected materials are taken where the material was not assumed to be asbestos. It further required that management plans be created for each individual building and that the maintenance and custodial personnel receive training. The plan must be implemented and the training must be completed by July 9, 1989. This document is the Asbestos Management Plan which provides the means and the methods to effectively deal with asbestos containing building materials.

All phases of asbestos inspection and management planning are reported in this plan including: response action strategy, priorities, scheduling of abatement activities coordination of personnel and evaluation of results. The plan has an additional function as a reporting document to that State. At the local level, the plan must be made available for general review by school district.

The Needham Public Schools have completed the 3rd year re-inspections and reports are available for review at each school building.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any question regarding this memo.

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