

# **GARFIELD COUNTY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL #1**

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August 1, 2026

Dear Parents, Teachers and Employees:

Uncontrolled asbestos contamination in buildings can be a significant environmental and public health problem. Both the public and private sectors have been dealing with the asbestos issue for many years. In 1986, congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) primarily to require school districts to identify asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in their school buildings and take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers. In 1987, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized a regulatory program which enforces the AHERA mandate.

In compliance with the AHERA regulations, our school facilities have been inspected by an EPA certified building inspector. During that inspection, samples were taken of building materials suspected of containing asbestos. The results of the inspection and laboratory analysis of the samples have confirmed the presence of ACM in portions of the school facilities. It is important to note that these materials are in a form and condition that does not pose an imminent health threat to students, faculty, or employees.

With confirmation of the presence of ACM, an Asbestos Management Plan has been developed for our school by an EPA certified management planner. The Management Plan includes the inspection and physical assessment reports, the training program for our custodial and maintenance personnel, the plans and procedures to be followed to minimize disturbance of the asbestos-containing materials, and a program for the regular surveillance of the ACM.

A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for your review in our administrative offices during the regular office hours. I am the designated Asbestos Program Coordinator and all inquiries regarding the plan should be directed to me.

The implementation of our Asbestos Management Plan has been underway for many years. It is our intent to not only comply with, but exceed applicable regulations in dealing with the asbestos issue. We will take whatever steps are necessary to insure that our students, teachers, and employees have a healthy and safe environment in which to learn and work.

Our school also tests for lead in the drinking water. As a result of the tests conducted in 2021 that showed lead contamination, we have now installed in-line filters on every water line that provides drinking water to our staff and students. These filters will reduce lead content in the water to at or near zero.

Sincerely,



Bryan FitzGerald  
Consultant