

## **REYNOLDS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **NOTIFICATION LETTER FOR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS**

#### **Integrated Pest Management**

The Reynolds School District uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for managing insects, rodents and weeds. Our goal is to protect all students and employees from pesticide exposure. Our IPM approach focuses on making the school building and grounds an unfavorable habitat for these pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. We accomplish this through routine cleaning and maintenance. We routinely monitor the school building and grounds to detect any pests that are present. The pest monitoring team consists of our building maintenance, office, and teaching staff and includes our students. Pest sightings are reported to our IPM coordinator who evaluates the “pest problem” and determines the appropriate pest management techniques. The techniques can include increased sanitation, modifying storage practices, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest.

From time to time, it may be necessary to use chemicals to manage a pest problem. A pesticide will only be used when necessary and will not be routinely applied. When a pesticide is used, the school will try to use the least toxic products when possible. Applications will be made only when unauthorized persons do not have access to the area(s) being treated. Notices will be posted in these areas 72 hours prior to application and for two days following the application.

Staff and parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notification, you must be placed on the school’s notification registry. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please notify the district in writing. Please include your email address if you would like to be notified electronically.

If a pesticide application must be made to control an emergency pest problem, notice will be provided by telephone to any staff, parent or guardian who has requested such notification in writing. Exemptions to this notification include disinfectants and antimicrobial products; self-contained baits placed in areas not accessible to students, and gel type baits placed in cracks, crevices or voids; and swimming pool maintenance chemicals.

Each year the district will prepare a new notification registry.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Casey Taylor, IPM Coordinator at 724-646-5500, Ext 5573.