

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Staff Member

I am writing about three (3) subjects that can affect children's health in school: pests, pesticides, and your right to know.

Pest Control

Because pesticides pose risks, Region Two uses an alternative approach to merely applying pesticides. Control of insects, rodents, and weeds at Region Two focus on making the school buildings and grounds an unfavorable place for pests to live and breed. Through maintenance and cleaning, we will reduce or eliminate available food and water sources and hiding places for the pests. We will also routinely monitor the school area to detect pest problems and prevent the pests from becoming established. Some techniques we will use include pest monitoring, sanitation, pest exclusion, proper food storage, pest removal and ~ as a last resort~ pesticides. This holistic approach is often called Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

Pesticide Use

Sometimes pesticide use may be necessary to control a pest problem. When that happens, Region Two will use the lowest risk products available. If higher risk pesticides must be used, notices will be posted at application sites and parents, guardians, and staff have a right to know.

Your Right to Know

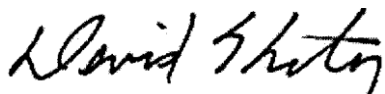
Parents, legal guardians, and school staff may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at Region Two. To receive notification, you must be placed on the notification registry. Notification will be given at least two (2) days before planned pesticide applications. Pesticide application notices will also be posted in the school building and on school grounds. Notification need not be given for pesticide applications recognized by law to pose little or no risk of exposure to children and staff.

Region Two also keeps records of prior pesticide applications and information about the pesticides used. You may review these records, as well as a copy of the "Pesticides in Schools" regulation (CMR 01-026 Chapter 27) by contacting our IPM coordinator, William Goetsch, at 207-532-9541.

If you would like to be placed on this registry, please complete and return the enclosed form.

If you have any questions, please contact William Goetsch. For further information about pests, pesticides, and your right to know, call the board of Pesticides Control at 207-287-2731 or visit the Maine School IPM website at www.thinkfirstspraylast.org/schoolipm.

Sincerely,



Mr. David Keaton, Director
Region Two School of Applied Technology