Pest Control

Section 1. General. The School Corporation is committed to providing students a safe environment. It seeks to prevent children from being exposed to pests and pesticides. While pesticides protect children from pests that may be found in the school and its surrounding grounds, under some circumstances they may pose a hazard to children. Therefore, pest control practices may involve a variety of chemical and non-chemical methods that are designed to control pests effectively while minimizing potential pesticide exposure to children.

Definition: A pesticide is any substance that controls or kills a pest. The term pesticide includes not only insecticides, but also herbicides (weed killers), fungicides, rodenticides, disinfectants, sanitizers and anything else that claims to kill or control a pest. Pesticides include common over-the-counter type products such as Roundup, Raid, D-Con, Weed-N-Feed, and Wasp and Hornet Spray.

The Corporation will:

1. Annually inform parents and staff members of a summary of the Corporation’s pest control guideline at the time of student registration by placing a provision in the East Allen County Schools Back to School Guide.

2. Provide the name and phone number of the person for parents to contact for information regarding pest control.

3. Establish a registry of parents and staff members who want to receive advance notice of all pesticide use when school is in session and provide such notice by first class mail or electronic mail.

4. In the alternative, one-time general notice of planned pesticide applications may be issued to parents and employees who have requested advance notice.

5. Maintain written record for a period of two years from the date of the application.

The Corporation will provide such notice at least two (2) school days prior to the date and time the pesticide application is to occur. The notice will include the date and time of the pesticide application, the general area where the pesticide is to be applied and the telephone number to contact the school for more information.
In case of emergency pesticide applications because of immediate threat to the public health, the school shall give written notice as soon as possible.

Section 2. Exclusions. This Guideline does not apply to the use of the following pesticides: (1) When used in normal cleaning activities: germ killers, disinfectants, sanitizing agents, water purifiers, and swimming pool chemicals; (2) personal insect repellents when self-applied; and (3) gel or paste bait insecticides or manufactured enclosed insecticides when used where students and staff members do not have access to the insecticides.

Section 3. Procedure. In an attempt to assure proper control of any pesticide or other harmful chemicals that might be used on corporation premises, these procedures are established. “Pesticide” is defined as a fungicide used on plants, an insecticide, a herbicide, or a rodenticide.

The intent of this regulation is to prevent unnecessary and unreasonable exposure of staff members, students, or the public to such potentially harmful substances.

1. Pesticides will be applied only by certified pesticide applicators or individuals operating under their supervision in school buildings, or on school grounds.

2. An emergency application of pesticide is defined as when an application of pesticides is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health and where it is impractical to obtain the services of a certified pesticide applicator; provided such emergency application does not involve a restricted use pesticide. Restricted use pesticide may be used only by certified applicators or under their direct supervision.

3. At the time of registration for each school year, the Board shall provide the staff members of each school and the parents of each child enrolled in each school with a written copy of the summary of the school district’s guideline on pesticide applications and the name and telephone number of the school district’s contact person for pest control information, and a request form for placement on a list for advanced notice. Such information will be included in the East Allen County Schools Back to School Guide and in individual school faculty/staff handbooks. This information shall also be provided to the parents of any child who transfers into a school during the school year. A request for such notice may be made at any time during the school year.

4. Parents and staff members may register for prior notice of pesticide applications. Each school principal shall maintain a registry of persons requesting such notice. Prior to the application of pesticide within any building or on school grounds, the parents and staff
members who have registered for prior notice shall be sent a mailing at least two school days prior to the application.

5. The aforementioned notice shall include (1) the name of the active ingredient of the pesticide to be applied if part of a routine scheduled service, (2) location of the application, (3) date of application, (4) approximate time and length of the application and (5) name and telephone number of the school administrator or his/her designee who may be contacted for further information. If the application is a part of a routine service, the notice will also include a description of the pests encountered and the application method used during the previous service.

6. Generally, pesticide applications will be done during non-instructional time or during vacation periods.

7. No pesticide application is to take place while school is in session, and children are in the immediate vicinity of the application.

8. If an emergency application is necessary to eliminate an immediate threat to human health, no person other than the applicator may enter the area of such application until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label or 4 hours has passed (whichever is longer).

9. In cases of emergency application, prior notice is not required. Notice will be given to those persons who have previously requested notice of pesticide applications as soon as reasonably possible after such application.

10. A copy of the records of each pesticide application whether EACS employee at a school or an outside contractor shall be maintained for two years from the date of the application. The records will be kept at the school site, a copy sent to the Service Center and will contain the following information:

   A. Name or address of school
   B. Name, license number and telephone number of certified applicator.
   C. Designee name (if different from certified applicator
   D. Date and time of pesticide application.
   E. Pests being targeted.
   F. Areas treated.
   G. Brand name and active ingredient of pesticide(s).
   H. EPA registration number of pesticide(s).
I. Source for obtaining information on the pesticide label(s), Material Safety Data Sheets(s), and/or fact sheet(s) for end use concentrations.

J. Amount of pesticide used.

The school principal upon request will make available the pesticide application information listed above for at least two years from the date of application.

11. Potential harmful substances such as insecticide, fungicide, herbicides, rodenticide, or other pesticides shall be chosen from the low levels of toxicity. The least toxic formulations and safest methods of application will be selected when there is a choice of products with comparable effectiveness. Whenever practical, non-chemical controls shall be used.

12. Storage of harmful products will be kept to a minimum. Only enough of the product for a given application shall be purchased. All storage instructions will be followed explicitly. All such products and the application equipment will be stored away from other activities and especially separated from food products or occupied rooms. All storage facilities will be maintained as a locked area and clearly marked as containing pesticides.

13. All pesticide products will have complete label instructions, will remain in the original container, and the Material Safety Data Sheet will be on file and readily available to any employee who must handle such materials or who may have been exposed to the product. This information shall also be available to any member of the public upon request.

14. All applications of harmful products will be made in strict compliance with label instructions.

15. School corporation employees responsible for handling and applying pesticides shall have specific pesticide training.

The Director of Facilities shall be the contact person for providing information regarding pesticide application activities at the school site, including but not limited to giving oral and written notification, supervising the sending of notification as required by school policy, and maintaining records of pesticide applications.