

- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH POLICY -

It is the policy of Dragonfleye® Charter School to provide a healthful educational environment, free of pesticides and other pollutants. Chemicals and chemically-laden material will be considered toxic and not allowed or used on site until proven safe. Biological contaminants, such as bacteria and mold, will be considered hazardous, and therefore, abated. Indoor air quality, along with other environmental factors in and around the school, affects the health, performance and productivity of all occupants. Children are more susceptible to environmental hazards; and the biochemistry of each person is unique. Accordingly, the Environmental Health Policy must be inclusive to ensure the provision of an optimum school environment that is healthful for all occupants and conducive to the learning needs of all students.

1. Pesticides and their use are prohibited on school premises. A system of integrated pest management shall be employed to monitor, prevent, suppress and eliminate pests without using any pesticides.
2. Usage of any tobacco products is prohibited on campus. Signs prohibiting the use of tobacco products shall be placed at the main entrances of the school building.
3. Cleaning and maintenance of the school and furnishings is to be done using safer, non-toxic products that are least odorous (e.g. baking soda, vinegar, Bon-Ami, borax, Basic H and I). A solution of water and up to 10% chlorine bleach may be used for disinfecting purposes.
4. Use of aerosol sprays is prohibited on the campus.
5. Soap, toilet paper and tissue must be fragrance-free and dye free. Use of conventional air fresheners and aromatic deodorizers is prohibited.
6. All school and art supplies must be non-toxic and fragrance-free. No scented stickers, permanent markers, or other solvent-based products are to be brought to or used on campus. Correction fluid may not be used in classrooms or other areas when students are present.
7. Science experiments requiring chemicals, or using any odorous materials shall be restricted to a designated area in Science Lab with adequate exhaust ventilation. Alternatives for chemistry and other science lab activities will be made available upon parent request to any students with allergies and/or chemical sensitivities.
8. Use of perfume, cologne and other scented personal products (e.g. hair care products, soaps, solutions, deodorants) is prohibited inside the school building. Signs to this effect shall be posted outside the school building. Anyone wearing fragranced products is prohibited from entering the school building.
 - Any occupant who smells of fragrance, smoke or other chemical odors is to be sent to the front office reception area where appropriate action(s) will be taken to remedy the situation.
 - In the case of students, parents will be notified and summoned to the school if a scented personal product must be removed from a child's body. The student may not return to the classroom or regular education environment until the fragrance or chemical odor has been removed.

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9. Any questionable items are to be sent to the school office for assessment.
10. The chemical compositions of new furnishings, supplies (e.g. paints, adhesives, caulking compounds) and construction materials shall be carefully considered before purchases are made. Donated items must be carefully screened. Safe sealers may be applied on plywood and other furnishings to minimize the outgassing of chemicals (e.g. formaldehyde, organic hydrocarbons).
11. To control the presence of chalk dust and minimize its accumulation, blackboards are to be cleaned daily with a damp cloth while students are not present. If chalk boards are used, only white chalk may be used in the classrooms. Blackboards and chalk may be replaced with white boards and odorless, water-based markers.
12. When purchasing textbooks and other books, preference will be given to those that have soy ink on acid-free paper, and older, used books. If new and odorous, books can be spread open and baked at 100° F for at least five hours and then aired out. This procedure helps diminish odors of ink and paper chemicals. Use photocopies, as opposed to dittos, whenever possible.
13. Routine vacuuming of the carpet shall be done either before or after regular school hours when classes are not in session. Until HEPA and /or Nilfisk GS 90 Allergy Vacuum can be acquired by the school, donated vacuuming equipment will have to be used and retrofitted with more efficiency dust bags when possible to best prevent the transferring of articulates into the air.
14. Educational programs for students, parents and staff will be provided so that the whole school community becomes more aware of environmentally related health, behavioral and learning problems.
 - ◇ In addition, the in-service training of teachers will include instruction on:
 - how to recognize environmentally-related health, behavioral and learning problems in children.
 - identifying potential causes of environmentally triggered illness (ETI) in relation to symptoms and learning disabilities.
 - prevention and management of ETI and accommodating the special needs of any affected individuals using multidisciplinary team approach.

Long Term Goals

1. Environmental Health Committee

- A. A Committee of seven (7) persons shall be delegated to establish an Environmental Health Committee.

Membership: The Committee shall be comprised of three members of school staff including the maintenance manager and the school nurse or principal; two parents of students attending the school; one member of the student body; and an environmental health expert, preferably with at least three (3) years experience in indoor air quality management. Of this delegation, at least two members must be individuals who have multiple chemical sensibilities.

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B. The Environmental Health Committee shall:

- 1) Develop a plan of operation, along with operational procedures.
- 2) Set reasonable goals that ensure the objective of the Environmental Health Policy is adequately met and understood at all levels.
- 3) Make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

C. The Environmental Health Committee shall be responsible for:

- 1) Developing an Indoor Air Quality Management Plan, an Integrated Pest Management Program and the educational programs described above in "Item 17".
- 2) Overseeing implementation of the Environmental Health Policy and related plans and programs.
- 3) Seeking out potential sponsors, needed resources, including donations and professional services, when such intervention is necessary and deemed appropriate.

2. Controlled ventilation with exhaust fans will be installed in all specially designated rooms that house printing, copying and laminating equipment, as finances permit.

3. The heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems shall be properly maintained, serviced and upgraded in accordance with the Indoor Quality Management Plan. Modifications will include retrofitting the systems with electrostatic precipitators and highly efficient charcoal filters or comparable filtration as finances permit.

4. Installation, use and maintenance of air purifier shall be done according to the specifications described in the Air Quality Management plan as finances permit.

Adopted by the Board of Directors: as written ___ as amended the 25th day of September, 1995 .

Revised: May 5, 1997
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