



Clifford Gurnham, Director of Operations

Guilford Public Schools

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Statement of Policy Letter to Parents/Guardians and Staff

The Guilford Board of Education is required by Public Act 99-165 to issue a statement of policy regarding the application of pesticides at schools and on school grounds. This statement of policy shall be made to all staff and to all parents or guardians of students enrolled in schools under the control of the Guilford Board of Education. This statement will be made annually at the beginning of the school year.

An Integrated Pest Management Plan is in place for the Guilford School System. This Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan is defined as the use of all available pest control techniques including judicious use of pesticides, when warranted, to maintain a pest population at or below an acceptable level, while decreasing the unnecessary use of pesticides.

The primary goal of IPM is to reduce the amounts of pesticides applied by using alternative methods of pest control which may include structural maintenance, sanitation and mechanical or biological control. These methods will help to eliminate conditions that are favorable to pest infestation, making their survival more difficult.

Whenever it is deemed necessary to apply a pesticide it will be done so during a period when school is not in session and there are no planned activities on school grounds. All individuals applying pesticides will hold proper State of Connecticut certificates. Methods of application of pesticides will conform to state regulations and statutes. Children will not be allowed to enter an area where such application has been made until it is safe to do so according to the provisions on the pesticide label.

Public Act 99-165 also allows for the notification of staff and parents and guardians of students prior to application of pesticide. Any individuals who wish to be notified may register at the school office or with the Facilities Department to receive notice. Notice will be mailed so as to be received 24 hours prior to pesticide application.

The previous year's applications consisted of emergency applications for wasps, bees and hornets and were applied by Professional Exterminating Company.

Questions regarding the Guilford Board of Education policy for pesticide applications may be addressed to the Director of Operations, Clifford Gurnham at 458-0002, ext. 12.