

ALMA D'ARTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COMMUNITY POLICY

Policy No. SC0004
Adopted: 05/09/16
Amended:

SUBJECT: PEST CONTROL

PUPRPOSE: To establish a policy that promotes a healthy environment for students, teachers, staff, parents, and community members.

BACKGROUND: Alma d'arte will promote a healthy and safe environment during and after school. Alma d'arte recognizes the value of a coordinated healthy and safe environment to promote optimum learning.

DEFINITIONS:

- (A) "Pest" means any living thing that may be harmful to other living things – includes plants, insects, bacteria, viruses, rodents, etc.
- (B) "Pesticide" means any substance intended for killing a pest, repelling a pest, preventing a pest, or otherwise affecting a pest. Herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, plant growth regulators, etc. are all pesticides.

REQUIREMENTS:

Alma d'arte shall develop procedures for the implementation of pest management with consideration for reducing the possible impact of pesticide use on human health and the environment, including people with special sensitivities to pesticides. The guidelines below shall be followed:

- (A) No pesticide may be applied to public school property and no pest control device, as defined in the New Mexico Pesticide Control Act, may be used on public school property except those pesticides and devices currently registered for legal use in the state by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture.
- (B) No pesticide may be applied to public school property except by those persons currently licensed and certified by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture or by employees under their direct supervision.
- (C) Pesticides will only be applied in or on the outside of the school buildings when a pest is present, and will not be applied on a regular or "calendar" basis unless it is to treat an infestation and is part of a pest management system being implemented to address a particular target pest. A pest is considered to be present when it is observed directly or can reasonably be expected to be present based on finding evidence, such as droppings, body parts, or damage that is typically done by the pest. This section of policy does not apply to pre-construction termite treatments or the use of outdoor herbicides.
- (D) Pesticides that are applied in a liquid, aerosolized, or gaseous form through spraying, aerosol cans, bombs, fumigation, or injections into the ground, foundation, or plants will not be applied on school property when student, staff, or visitors are present or may reasonably be expected to be present within six (6) hours of the application. In emergency cases, where a

pest infestation threatens the health and/or safety of the occupants of school property, and which requires the immediate application of a pesticide to remediate, students, staff, and other school occupants will be removed from the treatment area prior to the application. Small amounts of gel or liquid pesticides applied to cracks and crevices or baits used to treat pest infestations are exempt from this section.

- (E) At the beginning of each year, and when new students register, the school will develop a list of students, parents/guardians, staff, and faculty who wish to be notified prior to pesticide application during the school year. These students, parents/guardians, staff, and faculty will be notified in writing prior to pesticide application. General notification of anticipated pesticide application will occur by posting or dissemination of notices, by oral communication or other means of communication. In emergency cases where pest infestation threatens the health and/or safety of the occupants of the school property, no pre-notification is required. Immediately following the application of a pesticide in emergency cases, signs will be posted indicating an application was made.
- (F) Written records of pesticide application will be kept for three (3) years and will be available upon request to parents, guardians, students, teachers, and staff.

If any part of this policy is found to be in conflict with the provisions of the Pesticide Control Act, the remainder of the policy will remain in full force and effect.

Alma d'arte shall utilize the New Mexico State guidelines for maintaining a pest free environment. Alma d'arte will use the safest methods of pest control in the school building and on school grounds in accordance with the New Mexico Pesticide Control Act, Chapter 76 Article 4 NMSA and New Mexico State School Pesticide Law 6.30.2.10 E(4) NMAC which requires districts to develop procedures for pest management for school facilities and grounds.

Legal Reference: NMSA Article 4, Chapter 76, 6.30.2.10 E(4) NMAC

END