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## PEST CONTROL

### I. PURPOSE

To establish procedures that keep students and staff safe from exposure to pests and pesticides.

### II. BACKGROUND

The Governing Council 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 pesticides exposure to children.

### III. POSITION

A. This policy does not apply to the following pesticides:

1. Germ killers, disinfectants, sanitizing agents, and water purifiers when used in normal cleaning activities.
2. Personal insect repellents when self-applied.
3. Gel baits, or manufactured enclosed insecticides, when used where students and staff members do not have access to the insecticides.

B. Pesticides will be applied by certified applicators and pesticides applied to public school property must be currently registered for legal use in the state by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture.

C. Pesticides will be applied when students and staff members are not present, during non-instructional time or school vacation periods.

D. Pesticides will only be applied in or on the outside of 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 target pest.

E. Pursuant to this policy, the school will:

1. Inform annually parents and staff members, by a separate memorandum or as a provision in the student handbook, of the school's pest control policy.
2. Provide the name and phone number of the person to contact for information regarding pest control.
3. Establish a registry of parents and staff member who want to receive notice of all pesticide use and provide such notice.
4. Provide notice of planned pesticide application to parents and employees who have requested advanced notice.
5. Provide notice of all pesticide application to school nurse.

6. Maintain written record for 3 years of pesticide application and, upon request, make this record available to parents, guardians, students, teachers and staff.

**IV. REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Council's policy review process.

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Approved, Governing Council, President

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Date

Legal Reference:

Policy History: