

8.821 PEST CONTROL POLICY

The Merrillville Community 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.

The Merrillville Community School Corporation will:

1. Annually inform parents and staff members of the corporation's pest control policy at the time of student registration at the beginning of the school year by separate memorandum or as a provision in the student handbook.
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 members who want to receive advance notice of all pesticide use and provide such notice.
4. Provide notice of planned pesticide applications to parents and employees who have requested advanced notice.
5. Maintain written record for 90 days of any pesticide applications.

The Merrillville Community School Corporation will provide notice at least two 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.

The Merrillville Community School Corporation may provide for training of school employees to become certified pest control applicators. Financial support for such training may be provided by the corporation subject to budgetary constraints of the corporation.

The Superintendent shall prepare and disseminate regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Presented: 9/5/00

Adopted: 9/19/00