

### **PEST MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE**

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach focuses on making school buildings and grounds an unfavorable habitat for pests by removing their food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. This is accomplished through routine cleaning and maintenance. School buildings are routinely monitored to detect any pests that are present.

The pest monitoring team consists of maintenance, custodial, office, and teaching staff, and includes students, as well.

Pest sightings will be reported to the IPM coordinator who will evaluate the “pest problem” and determine the appropriate pest management techniques to use to address the problem. Techniques employed to address the problem can include increased sanitation, modifying storage practices, sealing entry points, physically removing the pest, etc.

The IPM coordinator for the District will be responsible for implementing the IPM policy and procedures. He/she will serve as the primary contact for all pest control matters throughout the school district.

District personnel will fill out the Pest Reporting Form (located in the administrative office of each facility, or on the District website) and send it to the IPM coordinator. The IPM coordinator will make a recommendation for pest control, and only under his/her direction will appropriately license and train personnel to apply any pesticide or herbicide. This will prevent any over-exposure or misuse of chemicals, resulting in the protection of students, staff, and patrons of the District.

Chemicals (pesticides) will only be used when it is absolutely necessary to eliminate a pest problem. The least toxic product possible shall be used to resolve the problem. Applications will be made only when authorized pest management personnel have access to the vacated area(s) being treated. Access will be denied to unauthorized personnel, as required, for the period specified, taking into account all precautions listed on the pesticide product label. Access control will be coordinated with building principal for alternative staff relocation, if necessary.

The Mountain Home School District will provide notice of the specific pesticide use to any staff, student, or parent who requests notification through the Integrated Pest Management Notification Request form (located in the administrative office of each facility, or on the District website).

Requests for notification are effective for the current school year only. When school is in session, the school district will provide notice in writing, or by phone, at least 24-hours prior to the application, if possible. Additionally, signs will be posted on grounds not adjacent to a facility just prior to application. When school is not in session, signs will be posted at the site notifying the public of any pesticide or herbicide applications and the duration of prohibitive use. Notice of

pesticide applications used to control emergency pest problems will be provided as soon as possible following the application.



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