

# **Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)**

On October 22, 1986, President Reagan signed into law the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA, Public Law 99-159). This law required the Environmental Protection Agency to develop regulations which will provide a comprehensive framework for addressing asbestos in public and private schools throughout the United States, to inspect each school building for the presence of asbestos, to develop asbestos management plans and to implement response actions with regard to any finding of asbestos containing materials.

In accordance with the law, we completed the inspections and developed management plans which were submitted to the New Jersey State Department of Health for review and acceptance. These plans outlined the method by which we conducted the investigation, the result of testing and proposed response actions to any asbestos that may have been found in each building. The management plan for each building was approved by the Department of Health for implementation. As required, six month surveillance of all ACBM is conducted semi-annually. Future changes in the management plan or implementation of any response action affecting the particular school building will be brought to your attention in advance of such work being undertaken. For your information, a copy of the building's management plan is permanently available in the building's Main Office and the Office of the Director of Plant, Operations and Maintenance for your review.

Please be assured that the Board of Education shares your concern about this national problem and is taking all of the necessary precautions to insure that the health and welfare of our students and staff are protected at all times.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact your building principal or the Director of Plant, Operations and Maintenance.