CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CHAPTER 600. MISCELLANEOUS STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.

§601. ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL HEALTH.

601.1. GENERAL POLICY. The provisions of this Section shall apply equally to all public, private and parochial schools conducting educational programs, in any municipality under the jurisdiction of the Chester County Health Department.

601.2. DEFINITIONS. The following words and terms, when used in this Section, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

601.2.1. "Garbage": All putrescible wastes (except sewage and body waste); including but not limited to animal and vegetable offal.

601.2.2. "Means of egress": A continuous path of travel from any point in building or structure to the open air outside at grade level. It consists of three separate and distinct parts: the exitway access; the exitway; and the exitway discharge. A means of egress comprises the vertical and horizontal means of travel and may include such elements as the room space, doorway, corridor, hallway, passageway, stairs, ramp, lobby, escalator, elevator, and other paths of travel.

601.2.3. "Refuse": All nonputrescible wastes generally regarded and classified as rubbish, trash, junk, and similar designations which have been rejected by the owner or possessor as useless or worthless to him.

601.2.4. "Schools": School buildings, including grounds, where there are training facilities for teaching children, or offering instruction in any branch of knowledge, including public, private, parochial, charitable, vocational, or any other institution intended for teaching from kindergarten to twelfth grade, on a classroom or organized basis.

601.2.5. "Sewage": Any substance which contains any of the waste products or excrements or other discharges from the bodies of human beings or animals, and any noxious or deleterious substances which are harmful or inimical: to the public health; to animal or aquatic life; or to the use of water for domestic water supply or for recreation.

601.2.6. "Sewerage System": Any system, whether community or individual, publicly or privately owned, for the collection and disposal of sewage or individual wastes of a liquid nature, or both, including various devices for the treatment of sewage or industrial wastes.

601.2.7. "Source": Any well, spring, cistern, infiltration gallery, stream, reservoir, pond, or lake from which, by any means, water is taken, either intermittently or continuously, for use by the

public.

601.2.8. "Waters of the Commonwealth": All rivers, streams, creeks, rivulets, lakes, dammed water, ponds, springs, and all other bodies of surface and underground water, or parts thereof, whether natural or artificial, within or on the boundaries of the Commonwealth.

601.2.9. "Water Supply": A source or sources of water, as well as any and all water treatment, storage, transmission, and distribution facilities.

601.3. PLAN REVIEW.

601.3.1. Before work is begun in the construction, remodeling, or alteration of a school, or in the conversion of an existing establishment or facility to a school, two (2) sets of properly prepared plans and specifications shall be submitted to and approved by the Department.

601.3.2. The plans and specifications shall include, where applicable, data relating to: the grounds, buildings, equipment; sewage disposal; water supply, including plumbing; refuse disposal; and any other information which may be required by the Department.

601.4. WATER SUPPLY.

601.4.1. All water used in the operation of a school shall be provided from a supply approved by the Department. Approval of a water supply shall be based upon satisfactory compliance with the construction standards for individual water supplies that are promulgated in Chapter 500, §501, of these Rules and Regulations.

601.4.2. The water supply shall be adequate in quantity and shall meet the bacteriological and chemical water standards of the Department, as found in Chapter 500, §501. Unapproved water supplies shall be made inaccessible to the public in a manner deemed satisfactory to the Department.

601.5. PLUMBING.

601.5.1. Plumbing shall be sized, installed, and maintained to: carry adequate quantities of water to required locations throughout the school; prevent contamination of the water supply; and properly convey sewage and liquid wastes from the establishment to the sewerage or sewerage disposal system.

601.5.2. The plumbing, likewise, shall be installed and maintained so as not to create an unsanitary condition or nuisance.

601.6. SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

601.6.1. All sewage disposal systems serving a school shall be approved by the Department.

601.6.2. Approval of the sewage disposal system shall be based upon satisfactory compliance with the standards for individual sewage disposal systems as described in Chapter 500, §502 of these Rules and Regulations, and the Clean Streams Law (35 P.S. §691.1 et seq.).

601.7. FOOD SERVICE.

601.7.1. Facilities to be used for the storing, preparation, and serving of food must meet the sanitary and health requirements of Chapter 300, §303 of these Rules and Regulations.

601.7.2. These food-service facilities shall also comply with the relevant provisions of the "Public Eating and Drinking Place" Act (35 P.S. §655.l et seq.).

601.8. SAFETY OF BUILDINGS.

601.8.1. The buildings, grounds, play area equipment, and appurtenances of schools shall be constructed and maintained so as to minimize health and accident hazards.

601.8.2. All existing school rooms shall, in the opinion of the Department, be of adequate size so as to prevent overcrowding.

601.8.3. All space, including cellars, shall be maintained in a clean, dry condition, without the presence of unnecessary material in storage.

601.9. TOILET FACILITIES.

601.9.1. Separate toilet facilities for each sex shall be provided on the premises of schools, for the students. Toilet facilities shall be of sanitary design and readily cleanable. Toilet facilities, including rooms and fixtures, shall be kept in a clean condition, and in good repair. The doors of all toilet rooms shall be self-closing, and toilet rooms shall be adequately vented to the outside. Toilet tissue shall be provided. Easily cleanable receptacles shall be provided for waste materials, and such receptacles in toilet rooms for women shall be covered.

601.9.2. Handwashing facilities shall be located in the classroom or adjacent thereto in all grades from kindergarten through grade two, and in other rooms where the activities require frequent handwashing.

601.9.3. Each lavatory on the premises having running water under pressure shall be supplied with hot and cold water. Where the school premises do not have running water under pressure, the pupils shall be supplied with water, for handwashing purposes, from a container, in an approved sanitary manner. Soap and individual towels or satisfactory equivalent shall be provided.

601.10. LOCKER ROOMS.

601.10.1. Whenever any school is provided with a locker room and necessary appurtenances, they shall be constructed and maintained in a manner which meets the approval of the Department.

601.11. FLOORS.

601.11.1. Floors of the school rooms shall be of such construction as to be easily cleaned, smooth, and in good repair. Dust-suppressing methods of floor cleaning shall be used.

601.11.2. All floors shall be kept clean and free from litter. Each room shall have at least one metal container for paper and trash.

601.12. WALLS AND CEILINGS.

601.12.1. The walls and ceilings shall be smooth, clean, tight, and in good repair.

601.12.2. Walls and ceilings shall have surfaces of light color and flat finish, providing adequate reflection factors.

601.13. VECTOR CONTROL.

601.13.1. Effective measures must be adopted, when necessary, to prevent infestation with insects, rodents, or other vectors, in accordance with the standards established in Chapter 600, §603 of these Rules and Regulations.

601.14. LIGHTING.

601.14.1. All schools and parts thereof, shall adhere to the following minimum standards for lighting:

601.14.1.1. AUDITORIUMS.

601.14.1.1.1. Assembly areas only: l5 footcandles.

601.14.1.1.2. Exhibition areas: 30 footcandles.

601.14.1.1.3. Social activity areas: 5 footcandles.

601.14.1.2. CAFETERIAS.

601.14.1.2.1. Dining area: 30 footcandles.

601.14.1.2.2. Cashier: 50 footcandles.

601.14.1.2.3. KITCHEN:

601.14.1.2.3.1. Inspection, checking, and pricing: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.2.3.2. Other areas: 30 footcandles.

601.14.1.3. CLASSROOMS.
601.14.1.3.1. Art rooms: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.2. Drafting rooms: 100 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.3. Laboratories: l00 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.4. LECTURE ROOMS:

601.14.1.3.4.1. Audience area: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.4.2. Demonstration area: 150 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.5. Shops: 100 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.6. Sight-saving rooms: 150 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.7. Study Halls: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.3.8. Typing: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.4. CORRIDORS AND STAIRWAYS: 20 footcandles.

601.14.1.5. FIRST-AID ROOMS.

601.14.1.5.1. General: 50 footcandles.

601.14.1.5.2. Examining table: 100 footcandles.

601.14.1.6. LIBRARY.

601.14.1.6.1. READING ROOM.
601.14.1.6.1.1. Study and notes: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.6.1.2. Ordinary reading: 30 footcandles.

601.14.1.6.2. Stacks: 30 footcandles.

601.14.1.6.3. Cataloging: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.6.4. Card files: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.6.5. Check-outdesks: 70 footcandles.

601.14.1.7. GYMNASIUMS: 20 footcandles.

601.14.1.8. TOILETS AND WASHROOMS: 10 footcandles.

601.14.2. MEANS OF EGRESS LIGHTING.

601.14.2.1. ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING. All means of egress shall be equipped with artificial lighting facilities to provide the intensity of illumination, herein prescribed, continuously during the time that conditions of occupancy of school buildings require that exitways be available.

601.14.2.2. INTENSITY OF ILLUMINATION. The intensity of floor lighting shall be not less than 3 footcandles.

601.14.2.3. INDEPENDENT POWER SOURCE. The lighting for areas providing means of egress shall be from an independent power source to assure continued illumination of those areas in case of emergency.

601.15. HEATING AND VENTILATION.

601.15.1. All classrooms and other areas of each school shall, in the opinion of the Director, be adequately and uniformly heated.

601.15.2. All heating devices shall be adequately vented in an approved manner.

601.15.3. In all rooms of the school, when mechanical ventilation is not provided, means shall be provided to insure adequate, natural ventilation.

601.16. GARBAGE AND REFUSE STORAGE, COLLECTION, AND DISPOSAL.

601.16.1. All garbage and refuse containing food waste shall, prior to disposal, be kept in leak-proof, nonabsorbent, rust and corrosion-resistant containers of adequate number, which shall be kept covered with tight-fitting lids, when filled or stored or not in continuous use. However, other means of garbage and refuse storage may be used if it is approved by the Department and it is in accordance

with the provisions of Chapter 500, §504 of these Rules and Regulations.

601.16.2. All other refuse shall be stored in containers, rooms, or areas of sufficient number and size in a manner so as to prevent arthropod and rodent problems and other nuisances.

601.16.3. Adequate cleaning facilities shall be provided, and each container, room, or area shall be thoroughly cleaned after all garbage and refuse shall be conducted in a sanitary manner and as often as necessary in order to prevent a nuisance. When disposal of garbage and refuse is accomplished within or upon the premises of the school, the disposal facilities shall be operated and maintained so as not to create a nuisance or a health hazard.

601.16.4. In general, all garbage and refuse storage, collection and disposal operations shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 500, §504 of these Rules and Regulations.

601.17. BATHING PLACES.

601.17.1. The construction, modification, maintenance, and operation of any bathing place in a school shall be subject to the provisions of Chapter 600, §602 of these Rules and Regulations, and the provisions of the "Public Bathing Law" (35 P.S. §672 et seq.).

CERTIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF CHESTER ss

I, John P. Maher, M.D., Secretary of the Chester County Board of Health, hereby do certify the within to be a true and correct copy. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this day of , .

John P. Maher, M.D., M.P.H.

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