CONSTRUCTION SAFETY

The Board of Education (the Board) of the Bethlehem Central School District (the District) recognizes the District’s responsibility to provide a safe school environment for students and staff during construction and maintenance projects.

The superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring that District procedures for safeguarding the safety and health of students and staff are consistent with state law and regulation, including the Uniform Code of Public School Building Inspections, Safety Rating and Monitoring and the Uniform Safety Standards for School Construction and Maintenance Projects. Specifically, the superintendent shall be responsible for the following items at the specified phase of the construction project.

Preconstruction

1. Ensuring proper planning for the safety of building occupants during construction or maintenance activities.
2. Hiring a New York State-licensed architect or engineer for projects costing more than $5,000.
3. Ensuring safety issues are addressed for bid specifications and contract documents.
4. Providing notice to parents, staff, and the community in advance of any construction project costing $10,000 or more to be conducted in an occupied school building. The notice is to be given at least two months prior to the date on which construction is to begin, except in the case of emergency construction projects, in which case notice will be given as soon as practical. The notice will provide information on the District’s obligation to provide a safe school environment during construction projects. The notice may be given by publication in the District newsletter, direct mailings, or by holding a public hearing on the project.
5. Revising the District’s emergency management plan, when appropriate, to accommodate the construction process, including a revised emergency exit plan and emergency evacuation and relocation procedures during the construction process.

During Construction

1. Monitoring of construction and maintenance activities to check for safety violations and to ensure that certificate of occupancy requirements are continuously maintained.
2. Ensuring that all areas to be disturbed through renovation or demolition are tested for lead and asbestos.
3. Investigating and responding to health and safety complaints.
4. Conducting fire drills during construction to familiarize students and staff with revised emergency procedures.
5. Ensuring compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements regarding noise abatement, exits, ventilation, air quality, fire and hazard prevention, chemical fumes, gases and other contaminants, asbestos and lead paint abatement, and radon testing and mitigation.

**Postconstruction**

1. Conducting a walk-through inspection with the Health and Safety Committee to confirm the area is ready to be reopened for use.

**Cross-Ref:**
- 7100, Facilities Planning
- 8110, School Building Safety
- 8112, Health and Safety Committee
- 8130, School Safety Plans and Teams

**Ref:**
- Education Law §§ 409-d (Comprehensive Public School Building Safety Program; 409-e (Uniform Code of Public School Buildings Inspection, Safety Rating and Monitoring)
- 8 NYCRR Part 155.4 (Uniform Code of Public School Building Inspections, Safety Rating and Monitoring); 155. 5 (Uniform Safety Standards for School Construction and Maintenance Projects)
- 9 NYCRR Parts 600-1250 (Uniform Fire Prevention & Building Code)

*Adoption date: June 19, 2002*

*Reapproved date: August 7, 2019*
CONSTRUCTION SAFETY EXHIBIT

Notification of Construction

To: Faculty, Staff, Parents, Guardian, Students, and other concerned parties

Date:
(Note: The District must provide notice at least 2 months prior to initial start date of project)

The __________________ Central School District anticipates conducting a construction project commencing on ____________________________. The project will be conducted at the (name and address of school). The project will consist of the following:

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

In furtherance of the District’s commitment to safety and in accordance with regulations of the commissioner of Education, the District will provide a safe school environment throughout this project. This will include an update of the school emergency plan to reflect any temporary exits or procedures needed as a result of the construction work at the school. Fire drills will be held to familiarize students and staff with any temporary exits. The construction area will be separated from occupied areas of the building, all kept to a minimum while the building is occupied. All applicable federal and stated rules and regulations will be strictly adhered to throughout the length of this project.

Specific questions or concerns about this project may be directed to ___________________ at ________________ (telephone number).

Sincerely,

Building Principal

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