HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Board of Education (the Board) of the Bethlehem Central School District (the District) recognizes the importance of District staff and parents collaborating to promote a safe, secure, and healthy school environment. The superintendent or designee will develop procedures to investigate and resolve complaints related to health and safety issues in the District’s buildings, consistent with requirements of state law and regulations.

In accordance with the Commissioner’s Regulations, the Board or designee will appoint a Health and Safety Committee composed, at a minimum, of representation from District officials, staff, and bargaining units.

The committee will participate in monitoring the condition of occupied school buildings to ensure that they are safe and maintained in a state of good repair. The superintendent or designee will ensure that the committee is appropriately involved in all of the activities required by the Commissioner's Regulations. Specifically, the committee will:

1. Participate in the investigation and disposition of health and safety complaints.
2. Monitor safety during school construction projects, including periodic meetings to review issues and address complaints related to health and safety resulting from the project.
3. Upon completion of a construction project, conduct a walk-through inspection to ensure the area is ready to be reopened for use.
4. Ensure that at least one member of the committee participates in any visual inspection required by the State or Commissioner of Education.

Expanded Health and Safety Committee

During construction projects, the Health and Safety Committee will be expanded to include the architect and construction manager. This expanded committee will:

1. Participate in the investigation and disposition of health and safety complaints regarding the construction or maintenance project.
2. Meet periodically to review issues and address complaints regarding health and safety arising from construction.
4. After the work is completed, conduct a walk-through inspection to confirm that the area is ready to be reopened for use.

Cross-Ref.: 7365, Construction Safety 8220, Buildings and Grounds Maintenance and Inspection
Ref.: 8 NYCRR Part 155.4 (Uniform Code of Public School Building Inspections, Safety Rating and Monitoring)

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