

SAFETY

Playground Equipment

The Board recognizes that playground equipment is an essential part of a complete school facility. All playground equipment, whether purchased by the District or donated by a community or school-related group, should be assessed in terms of suitability and durability and for possible health or safety hazards. Consideration shall also be given to potential hazards when the playground is unsupervised during non-school hours.

The Superintendent shall develop specifications for playground equipment and related play surfaces. These specifications shall serve as criteria for the selection of playground equipment. Selection and installation of playground equipment shall be based upon safety and contribution to child development.

Chemical and Laboratory Safety

The Board recognizes the potential health and safety hazards that exist as a result of chemical storage and handling. Instruction shall be emphasized in the safe and proper use of chemicals and substances and proper laboratory techniques. All students and staff are to wear safety glasses or goggles whenever they are working under potentially hazardous conditions. Laboratories should be ventilated sufficiently enough to provide a healthful, non-hazardous environment.

The Superintendent is directed to establish safety guidelines and procedures which will minimize the hazards inherent in the science classes and laboratories in the schools.

First Reading:

CROSS REFERENCE:

Policies 2151, 6511, 6605

Second Reading: 10/28/98

Revised: Dec 13, 2006

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PROCEDURES

Plans to install playground equipment, either temporarily or permanently at a school site, shall be reviewed by a committee appointed by the school principal and other appropriate staff members, including the Director of Maintenance and Operations. A representative from the current insurance carrier shall be contacted prior to installation.

Guidelines

- 1) Equipment must meet the safety criteria listed below:
 - A) All playground equipment must have an immediate ground surface which limits the impact from a fall. The safety surface must extend to the maximum distance to which a fall could occur.
 - B) Equipment is to be placed so as to take advantage of topography of surrounding terrain and far enough apart so that there will be a disbursement of children allowing safe, free movement with the least possible congestion.
 - C) All equipment is to be free from hazardous protrusions, points and sharp edges.
 - D) Exposed component materials are to be rust-free, clean and durable to use and weather with a minimum amount of splintering, flaking or other deterioration.
 - E) Equipment that is low to the ground and with a six (6) foot maximum vertical limit is preferred.
 - F) All moving parts are to be concealed and be designed to minimize the chances of pinching or catching of clothing or of body.
 - G) All equipment must be securely anchored according to manufacturer's recommendations and installed by the manufacturer or his/her authorized representative.
- 2) Equipment should require a minimum of maintenance, specifically for replacement of parts and painting.
- 3) Equipment should be aesthetically appealing, and encourage active and creative use.
- 4) Equipment should be difficult to vandalize.
- 5) Unpadded cement or steel stationary poles should not be in areas intended for running games.

The maintenance supervisor shall coordinate installation of approved equipment with the school principal. Quarterly inspections will be conducted using Form 6510 F1.

General Campus Equipment

Safety inspections must be conducted on a regular basis (forms 6510 F2 and 6510 F3).

- 1) The principal and custodian shall develop a punch list of specific areas and equipment specific to each school site.
- 2) The building custodian should make the inspection with the principal or at the principal's request.
- 3) Ideally, the inspection should be made prior to starting school, and in early November, January, and April.

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Presented to Board: 10/28/98

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PLAYGROUND INSPECTION REPORT

SCHOOL: _____

DATE: _____ INSPECTOR: _____

Check item if correct and note in REMARKS when problems found.

I. Ground Hazard

- no holes/depressions
- no protruding sprinklers
- no unsecured fences/gates
- no exposed footings
- no broken glass/litter
- no poor drainage areas

II. Surfacing

Type: _____
Depth: _____

Areas Need Surfacing/Raking:

III. Equipment: General

- smooth surfaces
- hardware in good condition
- no entrapment/no angle
- capped ends
- no sharp points, corners, edges, or loose welds
- no protrusions
- no projections
- no pinch, crush, or shearing points
- no tripping hazards
- no suspended hazards (cables, wires, ropes)
- no equipment > 7 ft. high
- adequate surfacing

IV. Equipment: Specific

SWINGS

- S-hooks closed
- good chains/seats/hangers
- no broken parts
- equipment stable
- adequate surfacing

SLIDES

- no loose steps or rails
- smooth surfaces
- no loose screws/bolts
- no broken parts
- adequate surfacing

SKETCH, IF NEEDED

COMPOSITE PLAY STRUCTURES

- smooth surfaces
- no metal rust/wood rot
- stable/secure
- no head entrapment
- no loose handholds/rails
- no loose step/ring/rung
- no loose nuts/bolts
- no missing parts
- no protrusions
- adequate lubrication
- no worn/frayed cables
- adequate surfacing

CLIMBING APPARATUS

- no cuts on ropes
- no loose nuts/bolts
- secure anchor/footing
- smooth surfaces
- adequate handhold size
- adequate surfacing

REMARKS:

REPAIR PRIORITY:

- 1. Imminent Hazard (Repair Immediately)
- 2. Scheduled Maintenance (Repair Next Visit)
- 3. Planning (To Administration for \$)

DATE REPAIRS COMPLETED: _____ BY: _____
(Note Items Repaired)

_____ Risk Management _____ Maintenance _____ Principal

BUSINESS EDUCATION	Satis- factory	Needs Attention
Electrical outlets/cords		
Equipment		
First aid materials		
Furniture		
Paper cutter		
Safety rules		

HOME ECONOMICS	Satis- factory	Needs Attention
Appliances & equipment		
Electrical outlets/cords		
Fire extinguishers		
First aid materials		
Furniture		
Lighting		
Nonslip floors		
Safety rules		

MOVABLE EQUIPMENT	Satis- factory	Needs Attention
Audio-visual equipment		
Carts		
Dollies		
Folding chairs		
Pianos		
Risers		

MECHANICAL DRAWING	Satis- factory	Needs Attention
Electrical outlets/cords		
First aid materials		
Lighting		
Safety rules		
Work benches		

KITCHEN	Satis- factory	Needs Attention
First aid materials		
Food service equipment		
Garbage area		
Health certificates		
Nonslip floor		
Safety rules		
Storage rooms		

MECHANICAL AND CUSTODIAL ROOMS	Satis- factory	Needs Attention
Electrical outlets/cords		
First aid materials		
Flammable liquids		
Flammable materials		
Heating inspections		
Ladders		
Power tools		
Safety rules		
Sewage inspections		
Storage		

	Satis-	Needs

OUTDOOR	Satis-	Needs

GYMNASIUM	factory	Attention
Apparatus:		
Blackboard		
Balance beam		
Bars		
Pads		
Ropes		
Weights		
Bleachers		
Dressing facilities:		
Floors		
Lighting		
Storage		
Walls		
Electrical outlets/cords		
Exits		
Fire extinguishers		
First aid materials		
Glasses & bulb protection		
Obstacles marked/padded		
Safety rules		
Storage		

FACILITIES	factory	Attention
Backstops		
Bicycle racks		
Chinning bars		
Climbing apparatus		
Fences		
Jumping pit		
Parking area		
Pedestrian crossing		
Play area hazards		
Speed control		
Swings		

