

CHEMICAL HAZARDS		File: EBAA
Section: E Support Services	Adopted: 03/02/06 Revised: 01/29/14	Last Revised: 10/18

The MECDDHH/GBSD Board is committed to providing a safe environment for students and employees. It is the policy of MECDDHH/GBSD to follow safe practices in regard to the storage and handling of hazardous chemicals in its schools. The school unit will comply with all applicable Maine and federal laws and regulations concerning hazardous chemicals.

The Executive Director will be responsible for developing a Chemical Hygiene Plan that includes procedures relevant to the identification, purchase, storage, inventory, handling, and disposal of hazardous chemicals, maintenance of material safety data sheets (MSDS), and for ensuring that employees are provided required training and information concerning hazardous chemicals used in the schools. The Executive Director may delegate responsibilities associated with Plan development to school system staff, as appropriate.

HazCom (Hazard Communication) Standards

The school unit will comply with OSHA's Hazard Communication standard 29 CFR 1910.1200, as adopted and enforced by the Maine Department of Labor, which requires a written hazard communication (HazCom) plan, including a listing of chemicals being used in the schools; training of employees that handle these chemicals; and, for all employees, where safety data sheets (SDS) are located, and how to read them. This standard applies to hazard communications for hazardous chemicals such as those used in cleaning and disinfection, which may be found in custodial and food service areas, among other locations.

The Executive Director will appoint the Building Facilities Foreman for MECDDHH/GBSD. The Chemical Hygiene Officer will have the primary responsibility for implementing the school unit's Chemical Hygiene Plan. The person appointed Chemical Hygiene Officer shall be familiar with State and federal regulations pertaining to laboratory and chemical safety and the chemicals used in the schools.

The Building Facilities Foreman shall attend such training as may be mandated by the Maine Department of Education or other State agencies.

Legal Reference: 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1200
 26 M.R.S.A. § 565
 Ch. 2 § 179 (Dept. of Prof. Regulation Rule)
 Ch. 161 (Dept. of Educ. Rule)

Commissioner's Administrative Letter No. 33, June 9, 2005
(Chemicals in Schools)

Cross Reference: EBCA – Comprehensive Emergency Management Team