

April 3, 2025

Important Information Regarding Asbestos Abatement at South Williamsport Area High School

Dear High School Parents,

As you know, the South Williamsport Area School District is currently undertaking a comprehensive renovation project at the high school to enhance our facilities and provide a more modern learning environment for our students as we plan for the transition of 6th grade to our high school for the start of the 2025-2026 school year. As part of this process, we are required to conduct asbestos abatement in certain areas of the building.

I understand that the topic of asbestos can raise concerns, and I want to assure you that we are taking every precaution to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and the community. We are working closely with licensed and certified asbestos abatement professionals to conduct this work in strict compliance with all federal and state regulations.

Here's what you need to know:

- **Scope of Work:** The asbestos abatement will be conducted in Rooms 105, 107, 109, 111 at the high school.
- **Safety Measures:**
 - The work will be performed by licensed and certified asbestos abatement contractors.
 - Containment areas will be established to prevent the spread of fibers.
 - Air monitoring will be conducted throughout the process to ensure air quality remains safe.
 - All asbestos-containing materials will be disposed of according to strict regulatory guidelines.
 - The areas being worked in will be sealed off from student and staff traffic during the entirety of the project.
- **Timing:** The abatement work is scheduled to begin on April 7, 2025, and is expected to be completed by April 21, 2025. We have scheduled the work to minimize disruption to the school day and will conduct much of the work during non-school hours when possible.
- **Oversight:** The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will be notified and will oversee the project to verify compliance.

Specific Procedures:

- An air barrier containment is built around each room that flooring will be removed. Only the covering of the doorway will be visible to students.

- Signs will be placed at the doorways to those rooms notifying of the work being performed with no entry into those rooms allowed.
- Existing materials will be removed using wet water methods to contain the materials.
- During the removal of the flooring air machines, with HEPA filters, will be utilized to ensure that all air within the room is exhausted to the outside and no air from that room is transferred to other areas of the building.
- Once removal of the flooring is completed all areas within the room will be cleaned using HEPA filtered vacuums.
- During the entire process air monitoring within the building is conducted to ensure the process.

We are committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff. We understand that this work may cause some temporary inconvenience, but it is a necessary step in the renovation process.

We will keep you informed of any updates or changes to the schedule. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the district office at 570-327-1581 or via email at ebriggs@swasd.org

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work to improve our high school facilities.

Yours in Education,

Dr. Eric Briggs

Dr. Eric Briggs
Superintendent of Schools
South Williamsport Area School District