

PRESS RELEASE

The students and staff of xxx Elementary are in no danger of hazardous asbestos.

According to xxx Schools Superintendent xxx, the district complies with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act that was enacted during President Reagan's term.

"Compliance means that all buildings are inspected every three years with intermediate inspections every six months," Superintendent xxx said.

The last report indicated that some of the building materials in xxx Elementary contained asbestos.

"That doesn't mean that the asbestos is hazardous," Superintendent xxx added. "There is no airborne asbestos."

According to AHERA, asbestos does not become hazardous until it becomes airborne.

The report also gave the gym ceiling a hazard rank of Poor/7. AHERA says that an area with this ranking requires monitoring and that materials be tested if they become damaged.

"Data Chem Laboratories, an accredited testing firm, tested the ceiling tiles and found them to be asbestos free," said xxx, district business manager. The ceiling in the xxx gym is unsightly but it is not hazardous," xxx added. "We will continue to monitor the situation and remove any loose tiles before they fall."

The district is in the process of a building project to build seven new elementary buildings and remodel two schools into asbestos free buildings.

"Our commitment to the health and safety of our students and staff will become evident when our new buildings are finished," xxx said. "Asbestos will not be an issue."