



The JCISD leases space in the East Jackson Memorial building for this program, and relies on East Jackson Community Schools (EJCS) to ensure compliance with asbestos inspection and containment. The following information was provided by East Jackson Community Schools.

Inspection and Report

ARM Industrial & Environmental Consultants, Inc. has been retained by the EJCS to conduct and oversee required AHERA inspections. The most recent Three-Year Inspection was completed by ARM Industrial & Environmental Consultants along with EJCS personnel on July 1, 2019. In between the three-year inspections, EJCS personnel conduct periodic surveillance of each building which might contain asbestos at regular intervals. The ARM Industrial & Environmental Consultants, Inc. report is available both in the East Memorial front office and in the Office of the EJCS Superintendent.

Asbestos and Health

Asbestos is a mineral found in certain types of rock formations. When mined and processed it takes the form of small fibers. Asbestos became a popular product throughout industry because of its unusual combination of qualities; it is strong, it will not burn, it resists corrosion and it insulates well. Asbestos has most commonly been used in schools as insulation and in building materials. It has been found in floor tile, ceiling tile, insulation, sound proofing and fireproofing materials, and various adhesive products. The potential of an asbestos containing product to release fibers is dependent upon several factors including its location and its degree of friability. Friable means that it can be crumbled with hand pressure and therefore is likely to emit fibers when disturbed. The potential health hazards associated with exposure to asbestos results from the inhalation of airborne fibers. Exposure to airborne fibers has been associated with various forms of cancer.

Findings:

Asbestos is assumed to be in or found in the following materials:

Memorial Building - Vinyl Floor Tile (now carpeted over) and fire doors

Recommendations

These materials were all found to be in good condition. The primary recommendation is to continue proper maintenance procedures to maintain these materials in good condition, and if replacement becomes necessary to make sure they are properly removed and replaced with non-asbestos containing materials. Detailed descriptions of the recommendations are in the report available at the school building and Superintendent's office.

What does all this mean?

Fortunately, most asbestos containing materials in schools can be dealt with safely and responsibly. Asbestos that is well managed and maintained in good condition appears to pose relatively little risk to students and school employees.

Mr. Randy Wilkinson, the EJCS Maintenance Supervisor, is the designated person in charge of asbestos for the EJCS. If you have any questions concerning asbestos findings at the Memorial building, you may contact Mr. Wilkinson.