

Okoboji Community Schools

P.O. Box 147 Milford, Iowa 51351

June 26, 2012

Subject: **Use of Green Cleaning Products and Procedures**

Okoboji Community School uses comprehensive green cleaning techniques in all of its buildings. Green cleaning products are used to provide a safe atmosphere for occupants and to be environmentally friendly, per HF 823.

Using green cleaning procedures creates a better work environment. Green buildings have better indoor air quality, have lower supply costs as a result of using energy efficient products, and have longer lasting buildings and a better public image for your facility.

Okoboji Community School's cleaning program is designed to have a reduced environmental impact while still maintaining attractive, clean and safe facilities. We realize the importance of green cleaning and are concerned with the health of its occupants and of the environment.

Things we currently do include:

- Use environmentally safe products
- Minimize the use of energy as much as possible while still meeting needs of the occupants
- Select green cleaning products as available and closely monitoring appropriate use
- Exposure to chemicals (direct contact, fumes, odors, etc.) is minimized. Custodians use rubber gloves, minimum amount of cleaning solution and time/labor is used, etc.
- Major cleaning such as stripping and waxing floors is done when buildings are unoccupied
- Concentrated cleaners are purchased to reduce the amount of plastic bottles discarded
- Certified green products are used when available
- Foaming cleaners are used in place of hand soap
- Non-toxic water-base gym varnish is used rather than oil-based products for annual varnishing
- High Efficiency lighting used
- Water is conserved water through use of auto-flush toilets
- Custodians receive training on proper use of chemicals and cleaning equipment
- Product suppliers performed an evaluation and assessment of school's cleaning program and use of chemicals
- Appropriate ventilation is used in all buildings to maintain air quality

We will continue to monitor and improve our program in the months and years ahead.

Anyone with questions or concerns regarding the district's use of Green Cleaning products and procedures may contact me at the central office (712-338-4757).

Gary Janssen, Superintendent