

Health, Safety and Risk Management

Service Overview CoSer 636

The Health, Safety and Risk Management Program is designed to provide information, leadership, training and technical support to assist component school districts with the implementation of a comprehensive safety program, and to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal regulations. Services are provided by a professional and experienced staff consisting of six Safety Officers; Sean Dunlap, Leland Dusharm, Kelly Neish, Paul Smith, Evan Todd, Susan Walker; and Ken Waldby, Coordinator.

The Health, Safety and Risk Management (HSRM) service spans six (6) major focus areas each with the goal of supporting higher standards of regulatory compliance, and to promote the safety and well being of school district students and staff in an efficient, cost effective manner.

Written Compliance Programs: In response to the various agency mandates, our staff assists school districts with the development, implementation, and review of written programs. Our programs are designed to comply with state and federal regulations, as well as school district policies and procedures. Written programs include OSHA mandated programs and emergency response plans such as those required under NY State Education Law, commonly known as the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (S.A.V.E.) Act.

Training and Exercises: A required component of most safety regulations, particularly OSHA, is that of employee orientation and training. The HSRM team personally provides in-district employee training, such as Right-To-Know and Bloodborne Pathogens in compliance with regulatory requirements. Employee training is tailored to the needs of the districts to increase safety awareness and reduce the potential for accidents and injuries. In addition, specialized training such as; AED/CPR, Emergency Response, Fire Safety, Forklift, Electrical Safety (LOTO), Safe Lifting and others, are provided as needed. Online training modules for instructional and support staff are available for RTK/BBP and Emergency Response. The HSRM team is available to facilitate emergency response preparedness exercises and drills with key administrators and team members at the district and building level.

Records Development: Our staff provides assistance with recordkeeping and documentation of compliance efforts such as the Toxic Substance Inventory, (Material) Safety Data Sheets, Employee-Exposure (Chemical Product Usage) Records, Illness/Injury Log, Fire Inspection Records, Hepatitis B Vaccination Records, and Safe Schools (emergency response plan) submission requirements.

Facilities Inspections and Audits: In preparation for inspections from the NY State Department of Labor, Public Employee Safety and Health (PESH) Office, our staff is available to provide room-to-room facilities audits prior to a routine government inspection. The district safety officer will provide a written report which recommends corrective actions necessary to avert potential citations. Recommendations are also offered to assist the district in creating a safer working environment to reduce the potential for accidents and/or injuries. Asbestos inspections (AHERA Triennial), NYS code certified fire inspections and SED required annual visual inspection services are also available.

Environmental Monitoring: A wide range of environmental monitoring and technical assistance services are available to component school districts on an as-needed basis. Indoor air quality testing, water quality, including lead-in-water, radon and other testing can be conducted. State-of-the-art equipment and instruments are available for use in the investigation and evaluation of many environmental conditions.

Cooperative Services: Reduction of costs through cooperative services and purchasing where possible.

For further information contact Ken Waldby, at (315) 431-8591 or e-mail at kwaldby@ocmboces.org