

Mrs. Theresa Signorile
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Dear Parents,

Although we may not realize it, asbestos is a common material and is found in almost every building in our society. It is a fireproofing material; it is found in floor tiles; it is used as an acoustical material to deaden sound. Under certain conditions, however, when it is damaged, asbestos can prove to be a concern.

Recently, because of that concern, the Federal Government asked every school in the country to conduct an inspection for all asbestos-containing materials.

All schools may contain some asbestos. "It is," as the Environmental Protection Agency states, "important to note that not all friable asbestos-containing material need to be removed from schools. Once such material has been identified, a program can be implemented to ensure that the material is maintained in good condition, and that appropriate precautions are followed when the material is disturbed for any reason.

Nevertheless, in order to ensure that no danger arises in the future from the friable asbestos, environmental engineers have been retained to do inspection and evaluation work in order to advise what, if any steps are required to ensure the ongoing welfare of students and staff, and to ensure that no student or staff member will be exposed to unsafe levels of friable asbestos. The Archdiocese has spent over 10 million dollars in the abatement of asbestos since 1983 (long before the current regulations) and will continue with its commitment to provide a safe environment for our students and employees.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Theresa Signorile

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Fr. Arthur Mastrolia
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