ALBANY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
I.P.M.POLICY

This plan has been developed for the ALBANY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT to ensure the health and safety of students, teachers, staff, administration, and visitors using the districts buildings and grounds, while at the same time controlling pest populations in an effective and environmentally sound manner.

This plan will rely on mechanical, sanitation, habitat modification, monitoring, and the use of the least toxic products needed to control unacceptable populations of pests.

Integrated Pest Management involves the monitoring of pest populations, establishment of injury levels, modification of habitats, keeping of records, and evaluation of performance on an ongoing basis.

STRUCTURAL IPM GUIDELINES

Structural pests that commonly inhabit or invade school buildings include cockroaches, ants, rodents, termites, and stinging insects. Specific IPM monitoring and control products and techniques have been developed for each type of pest, and will be utilized. However, the following strategies will be implemented at the start of an IPM program to minimize structural pest problems in general.

MONITORING

Understanding what kind of pest problems are present, where they are, and how big their populations are is essential for successfully eliminating problems.
Treatments will not be applied unless monitoring indicates a pest problem in excess of specified injury levels.
Structural pests will be monitored via direct inspection, sticky traps, mechanical traps and glue boards as necessary. Captured pests will be recorded and disposed of on a daily basis.

INJURY LEVELS

Also known as tolerance levels, injury levels determine the point at which treatment is necessary.
Appropriate injury levels will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may take into consideration economic losses, health risks, nuisance problems and pest visibility.
It is neither possible, nor desirable to completely exterminate every pest and potential pest from every area of school property.

HABITAT MODIFICATION

In every structural environment the food, water, entry points and places to hide that attract and sustain pest's populations will be eliminated. Proper sanitation, which will involve a coordinated effort by all building occupants, is essential.

Sanitation will be conducted effectively and routinely, and will extend to all areas of the school facility, and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to improve performance and correct any shortfalls.

The following is a general guide to habitat modifications to be assessed and implemented in key areas throughout the school facility.

Entryways (including doorways, windows, wall cracks, pipe spaces, drains, ducts)
Make sure doors are not propped open
Install weather-stripping and door sweeps
Calk wall cracks
Keep shrubs, bushes, and grass trimmed away from building.
Eliminate food waste and debris from outside area.
Classrooms and offices
Allow food and beverages in designated areas only.
Clean dishes, coffee machines, microwaves and utensils on a regular basis.
Store food in tightly sealed containers.
Prohibit the storage of food in desks and lockers.
Inspect plants and animals (science projects) regularly for pest problems
Vacuum and remove trash on a daily basis.

Food preparation and serving areas
Store food, beverages, and food wastes in a tightly sealed, lidded container.
Remove food waste daily.
Screen vents, windows and floor drains.
Keep all areas clean and dry by sweeping and mopping, quickly disposing of food waste, removing clutter, and fixing leaky pipes and faucets.
Clean grease traps when needed.
Calk cracks
Clean behind and underneath appliances, coolers, vending machines and waste disposal units.
Plumbing and Maintenance Areas
Repair leaks and other plumbing problems
Clean floor drains regularly
Clean mops and buckets, dry buckets and hang mops off of floor and above drains.
Seal pipe chases
Eliminate clutter
Remove trash regularly
Store food waste securely
Clean under and around dumpsters routinely
Empty garbage cans daily

LEAST TOXIC CONTROLS

Controls will be used only when a pest has exceeded the designated injury level as determined through monitoring. Every effort will be made to modify the habitat to the point where it neither invites nor sustains pests.

Physical controls will be instituted prior to the use of chemical controls. Only chemical controls least toxic to humans, non-target species and the environment will be used.

Physical controls include:
Desiccants
Barriers
Traps
Environmental manipulation (temperature, humidity, light, etc.)
Manual removal

CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH IPM PROVIDERS

Outside contractors providing pest control services to the Albany ISD will be required to adhere to IPM standards required for in-house staff. All contracted pest control activities will follow plans based on the IPM principles listed above. The Albany ISD will ensure that contractor selection is determined not solely according to price, but also by the contractors ability to provide satisfactory IPM services.

LICENSING AND TRAINING FOR PESTICIDE APPLICATORS

No person shall apply, store handle, or dispose of any pesticide on Albany ISD property without an appropriate pesticide applicator's license. All pesticide applicators will be trained in the principles of IPM and the use of pesticides approved for use in the Albany school district. All applicators must comply with this IPM policy and follow appropriate regulations and label precautions when using pesticides in or around school facilities.