

Francis E. Willard School: Asbestos Hazard Report

The Philadelphia Regional Center for Children's Environmental Health has partnered with the Healthy Schools Initiative to analyze and report on public information regarding asbestos conditions in schools made available on the School District of Philadelphia's website.

This report is meant to communicate to parents, teachers, and staff the exposure risk at their school and help prioritize the removal of asbestos in high-risk exposure locations.

Our analysis is based on publicly available reports. We have not conducted inspections or verified the reports.

Key Findings:

- 67 teacher / student occupied spaces have **asbestos containing material (ACM)**
- 2 spaces contained friable ACM
- ★ 0 spaces had damaged ACM

Our Recommendations:

- The School District is required to regularly monitor the condition of their ACM by the EPA. As of the most recent report from August 2024, there is no damaged ACM in the school. We recommend frequent monitoring of all ACM, especially paint in the multipurpose room and acoustic ceiling tiles which if damaged is considered friable as listed in Table 1 of this report. Teachers, staff, and parents should report any damaged ACM to their principal immediately.



What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a fibrous material that is resistant to heat, water, and corrosion.

See this link for a comprehensive list: <https://prcceh.upenn.edu/asbestos>

Asbestos was used in materials in schools, including:

- Ceiling Tiles
- Floor Tiles
- Pipe Insulation
- Cement
- Paint and Caulk
- Soundproofing
- Fireproofing
- Plaster Materials

What are the health effects of asbestos?

No immediate health impacts are expected from asbestos exposure in schools. However, breathing asbestos fibers in schools may increase the risk of developing cancer many years from now.

Children are very active, breathing more air while running and playing. Children take more breaths per minute than adults and are lower to the ground where asbestos fibers may settle. This puts them at an increased risk for asbestos exposure.

How are damaged asbestos containing materials managed?

Asbestos can be removed. Sometimes damaged materials are managed in place by patching, encapsulating (using a specially formulated paint-like coating) or building an enclosure around damaged and/or accessible materials. All of these are forms of abatement.

The Environmental Protection Agency requires all remaining asbestos containing material to be inspected by the school district every six months. This is documented in an Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act Report (AHERA Report).

Are all asbestos containing materials of equal risk?

Some asbestos containing materials like ceiling and floor tiles have asbestos fibers imbedded in other materials. As long as they are not broken or damaged the asbestos fibers are not released into the air.

Some asbestos containing materials like insulation on pipe remains fibrous and can easily be released in the air when damaged.

Important Terms

Get to know these terms to make the most out of this report.

Damaged Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) can release asbestos fibers into the air.

Friable Materials can be reduced to a powder by applying hand pressure. **DO NOT TOUCH!**

Non-Friable materials are not easily damaged.

Significantly damaged materials are more than 10% damaged.

Abated ACM means repaired, removed, or reduced risk of exposure.

Detailed Review for Francis E. Willard School

This school has 70 spaces with asbestos containing materials 67 of them are in teacher / student occupied spaces. The School District last inspected ACM in May 2024 and published the AHERA report in August 2024. No damaged ACM were reported on this AHERA report.



We recommend that the school district continue to frequently monitor friable asbestos containing materials for damage. The only friable material found in the most recent report was paint and ceiling tiles throughout the school (see tables 1 and 3).

Information Reviewed to Make this Report:

The 2024/25 AHERA report from the School District of Philadelphia was reviewed.

To see the most current information, scan these QR Codes. After scanning, search for your school.

School Districts of Philadelphia Asbestos Reports:



AHERA Reports are documents generated from EPA required asbestos inspections



Report what you see!

Parents and teachers should report hazardous conditions in schools on the Healthy Schools app.

Scan here to download the app:



Disclaimer:

This report analyzes custodial and mechanical spaces like boiler rooms **only** when ACM is significantly damaged (damage > 10%).

Questions?

Find more resources on our website!

- Photo gallery of different types of damaged asbestos containing materials
- Guide to how we classify materials in schools
- Our analysis and reporting methodology
- What we do with the information in this report

prcceb.upenn.edu/asbestos



Email us at prcceb@penmedicine.upenn.edu or call 215-573-9076

Table 1: Friable Asbestos Containing Materials Identified for Annex

NOTE: Friable materials can be reduced to a powder by applying hand pressure. *Do not touch it!* Damaged and significantly damaged friable materials readily release harmful asbestos fibers into the air.

Location	Friable Asbestos Containing Material	Reported as Damaged or Significantly Damaged? (Blank = No)
Multipurpose Room	Paint associated with Radiator Cover	

Table 2: Non-Friable Asbestos Containing Materials Identified for Annex

NOTE: Significantly Damaged non-friable materials (damage \geq 10% of the material) can release harmful asbestos fibers into the air.

Location	Material Name	Reported as Damaged or Significantly Damaged?
Classroom 1	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Building Engineer's Office	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Building Engineer's Office Closet	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Isolation Room	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Classroom 3	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	

Classroom 3	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Director's Office	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Family Advocate's Office	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Family Advocate's Office Closet	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Nurse's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Nurse's Office	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Classroom 2	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Classroom 4	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Classroom 5	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Classroom 6	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 6	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Staff Lounge	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Staff Lounge	Floor Tile VAT 18" x 18"	
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Main Hallway	Mastic associated with Floor Tile	

Table 3: Friable Asbestos Containing Materials Identified for Main Building

NOTE: Friable materials can be reduced to a powder by applying hand pressure. *Do not touch it!* Damaged and significantly damaged friable materials readily release harmful asbestos fibers into the air.

Location	Friable Asbestos Containing Material	Reported as Damaged or Significantly Damaged? (Blank = No)
Auditorium	Acoustic Ceiling Panels	

Table 4: Non-Friable Asbestos Containing Materials Identified for Main Building

NOTE: Significantly Damaged non-friable materials (damage \geq 10% of the material) can release harmful asbestos fibers into the air.

Location	Material Name	Reported as Damaged or Significantly Damaged?
Bilingual Counselor's Office 100A in Main Office Suite	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Psychologist's Office 100B in Main Office Suite	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
General Office 100D in Main Office Suite	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Office 100E in Main Office Suite	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Principal's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Conference Room 100G in Main Office Suite	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	

Francis E. Willard School: Asbestos Hazard Report



Work Room 100H in Main Office Suite	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Storage Room 100I in Main Office Suite	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Security Monitoring Room in Room behind Storage Room 100I	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Storage Room 100J across from Maintenance Closet 119B	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Main Office Suite Hallway from Conference Room to Exit Door next to Staff Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Main Office Suite Hallway from Office 100A to Principal's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 101	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 103	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 104	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 106	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Health Suite Waiting Area	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Speech Therapy Office 107A	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Storage Room 107B in Health Suite next to Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Nurse's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Exam Room 107D next to Nurse's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Computer Lab 107G	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 109	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 110	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 111	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 112	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 113	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 114	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 115	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 116	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 117	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Office 119A next to Mechanical Room 119	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Elevator	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway from Pipe Chase across from Classroom 109 to Stairwell 2	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway from Computer Lab 107G to Stairwell 1	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
IMC Work Room 200A	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
IMC Work Room 200A	Sink Undercoat Mastic	
IMC Office 200B	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
IMC Storage Room 200C	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
IMC Storage Room 200D next to Reference and Data Library Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 201	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 202	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 203	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 204	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 205	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 206	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 207	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 209	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 210	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 211	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 212	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 213	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 214	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 215	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	

Francis E. Willard School: Asbestos Hazard Report



Classroom 216	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 217	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Art Studio	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Art Studio's Central Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Special Education Office 219A	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway from Boy's Restroom to Stairwell 3 and IMC	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Auditorium	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Storage Room 120B in Auditorium	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Auditorium Stage	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 121	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 121 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Music Room 122	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Music Storage Room 122A	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 123	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 123 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Kitchen Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Cafeteria Storage Room/Audio Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Gymnasium Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Gymnasium Office Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Boy's Locker Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Boy's Locker Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Girl's Locker Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Girl's Locker Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Gymnasium Entrance Lobby Area	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Gymnasium Entrance Lobby Area	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Staff Dining	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway between Staff Dining and Staff Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Building Engineer's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Building Engineer's Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Vestibule Area for Stairwell 4	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 223	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 225	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 225 Storage Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway from IMC to Stairwell 4 near Classroom 225	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway from IMC to Stairwell 4 near Classroom 225	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	