

# Honorable Luiz Munoz-Marin 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:

- 48 teacher / student occupied spaces have **asbestos containing material (ACM)**
- 4 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 September 2024, there is no damaged ACM in the school. We recommend frequent monitoring of all ACM, especially asbestos containing paint 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 Honorable Luiz Munoz-Marin School

This school has 53 spaces with asbestos containing materials. 48 of them are in teacher / student occupied spaces. The School District last inspected ACM in July 2024 and published the AHERA report in September 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 "asbestos containing paint on the ceiling and wall" in several areas throughout the school (see table 1).

### 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.



Report what you see!

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

Scan here to  
download the app:



### School Districts of Philadelphia Asbestos Reports:



AHERA Reports are documents generated from EPA required asbestos inspections

### 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!

[prcceh.upenn.edu/asbestos](http://prcceh.upenn.edu/asbestos)

- 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



Email us at [prcceh@penmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:prcceh@penmedicine.upenn.edu) or call 215-573-9076

Table 1: Friable Asbestos Containing Materials Identified

**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)
Classroom 201 Closet	Paint associated with Wall, CMU	
Classroom 213 Closet	Paint associated with Ceiling, Concrete	
Library Office Closet	Paint associated with Ceiling, Concrete	
Classroom 314 Closet	Paint associated with Ceiling, Concrete	

Table 2: Non-Friable Asbestos Containing Materials Identified

**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 102	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 102 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 107 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Conference Room 116 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 118 Front Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 120 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Office 121 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Storage Room Next To Office 124	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Office 125A Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 125 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Family Life Management Classroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Family Life Management Left Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Family Life Management Right Storage Room (Closest To Entry Door)	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Family Life Management Right Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Music Room Storage Room by Entry from Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Music Room Storage Room by Stage Entry	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Music Room Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Staff Restroom Across From Staff Lockers 144	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Family Center Gender Neutral Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Storage Room 162	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Office 166	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Psychologist Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Exam Room 169 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Exam Room 169	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Exam Room 169 Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
School Operations Storage Room 176	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Assistant Principals Office Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 201	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 201 Closet	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 209 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	

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Classroom 213 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Library Work Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 215	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Library Office Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 217	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Reading Room 218 (in IMC)	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Library	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 221 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 225 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 226 Office and Storage	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 226 Closet Back of Room Right Side	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 226 Closet Right of Room Entrance Door	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 227 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Fan Room First Closet on Left	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Fan Room Storage Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway from Main Hallway to Fan Room	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Hallway from Classrooms 223 to 227	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 301 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 303 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 305 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 306 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 307 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 309 Left Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 313 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 314 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 315 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 317 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 319 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 320 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	
Classroom 321 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"	