

Isaac A. Sheppard 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:

- 45 teacher / student occupied spaces have asbestos containing material (ACM)
- 4 spaces had damaged ACM
- 26 spaces contained friable ACM
- **All damaged** materials were scheduled to be abated

Our Recommendations:

- The School District scheduled the abatement for all four damaged ACM identified during their latest inspection in Sep 2025.
- The School District is required to regularly monitor the condition of its ACM by the EPA. We recommend that the School District continue to frequently monitor ACM for damage.



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.

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.

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).

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 Isaac A. Sheppard School

This school has 50 spaces with asbestos containing materials. 45 of them are in teacher / student occupied spaces. The School District last inspected ACM in Sep 2025 and published the AHERA report in Sep 2025. Since then, the School District scheduled the abatement of all 4 damaged asbestos containing materials identified during this inspection. 3 of the damaged materials identified were friable ACM, and 1 was nonfriable (see Tables 1 and 2).



We recommend that the school district continue to frequently monitor ACM for damage. A list of all the ACM in the school and their damage/abatement schedule can be found in the tables at the end of this report. The Air Management Services website does not confirm the completion status of the abatement scheduled for 2025 in response to the Sep 2025 AHERA report.

Information Reviewed to Make this Report:

The 2025/26 AHERA report from the School District of Philadelphia, and asbestos abatement notifications from the Air Management Services Online Portal.

Not included in this report are planned repairs to damaged asbestos materials that have not been uploaded to the Air Management Services website or any updated after December 18, 2025. 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

Office of the Controller Asbestos Project:



Asbestos abatement notification forms



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!

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@pennteamicine.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	Material Name	Reported as Damaged or Significantly Damaged? (Blank = No)	Abatement scheduled since the inspection? (Blank = No)
Classroom 100	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Classroom 100 Closet	Pipe Fitting Insulation	Damaged.	Partial removal scheduled for Sep-Dec 2025. Previously encapsulated in Apr 2017.
Women's Restroom across from Auditorium	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Custodial Closet across from Auditorium	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Classroom 101	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Classroom 101 Closet	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Auditorium	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Auditorium Stage	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Classroom 102 (New Principal's Office)	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Classroom 103	Pipe Fitting Insulation		

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Classroom 103 Rear Closet	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Nurse's Suite Vestibule	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Nurse's Office	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Nurse's Exam Room/Infirmary	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Main Office	Pipe Fitting Insulation	Significantly damaged. Previously reported damaged Oct 2013.	Partial removal scheduled for Sep-Dec 2025.
Corner Office next to Principal's Office	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Main Hallway	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
South Stairwell between Classrooms 100 and 101	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Small Attic above Classroom Coat Closet 306A	Paint associated with Wall, Brick		
Girl's Restroom - North End outside of Cafeteria	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Boy's Southwest Restroom	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Storage Room next to South Stairwell	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Emergency Generator Room	Paint associated with Floor, Concrete		
IMC (Library)	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
IMC (Library) Office	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Boiler Room	Sectional Boilers		
Cafeteria	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Men's Restroom - North End outside of Cafeteria	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
Boy's Restroom - North End outside of Cafeteria	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
South Hallway outside of IMC	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
North Hallway outside of Cafeteria	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
North Stairwell - Cafeteria End	Pipe Fitting Insulation		
South Stairwell - IMC End	Pipe Fitting Insulation	Significantly damaged.	Partial removal scheduled for Sep-Dec 2025.

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? (Blank = No)	Abatement scheduled since the inspection? (Blank = No)
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Classroom 100	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 100	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 100	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 100 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 100 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 100 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 100 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 100 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 100 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Storage Closet Outside Of Classroom 100	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Storage Closet Outside Of Classroom 100	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 101	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 101	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Classroom 101	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Classroom 101	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 101	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 101 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 101 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 101 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 101 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 101 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 101 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Auditorium	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Auditorium	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Auditorium	Partition Room Dividers		
Auditorium	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Auditorium Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Auditorium Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Auditorium Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Auditorium Air Shaft 4	Mortar		
Auditorium Air Shaft 5	Mortar		
Auditorium Air Shaft 6	Mortar		
Auditorium Stage	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Auditorium Stage	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Auditorium Storage Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Auditorium Storage Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Auditorium Storage Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 102 (New Principal's Office)	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 102 (New Principal's Office)	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		

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Classroom 102 (New Principal's Office)	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 102 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 102 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 102 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 102 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Classroom 102 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 102 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 102 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 103	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 103	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 103	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 103 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 103 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 103 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 103 Rear Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 103 Rear Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 103 Front Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 103 Front Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Nurse's Suite Vestibule	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Nurse's Suite Vestibule	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Nurse's Office	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Nurse's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Nurse's Office	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Nurse's Exam Room/Infirmary	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Nurse's Exam Room/Infirmary	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Nurse's Exam Room/Infirmary	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Nurse's Restroom	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Nurse's Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Nurse's Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Main Office	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Main Office	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Corner Office next to Principal's Office	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Corner Office next to Principal's Office	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Corner Office next to Principal's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Main Office Security Office	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Main Office Security Office	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
IT MDF Room inside Corner Office next to Principal's Office	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Principal's Office	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Principal's Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		

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Principal's Office Storage Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Storage Closet adjacent to Main Office	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Storage Closet adjacent to Main Office	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Main Hallway	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Main Hallway	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 200	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 200	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 200	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 200 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 200 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 200 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 200 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 200 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 200 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 201	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 201	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 201	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 201 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 201 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Computer Lab 201 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Computer Lab 201 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Computer Lab 201 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Computer Lab 201 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 202	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 202	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 202	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Classroom 202	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 202 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 202 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 202 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 202 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 202 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 202 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 203	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 203	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 203	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 203 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 203 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		

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Classroom 203 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 203 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 203 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 203 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 204	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 204	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 204	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 204 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 204 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 204 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 204 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 204 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 204 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 205	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 205	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 205	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 205 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 205 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 205 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 205 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 205 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 205 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 206	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 206	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 206	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 206 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 206 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 206 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 206 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 206 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 206 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 207	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 207	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Classroom 207	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 207 Restroom	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 207 Restroom	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Main Hallway	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Main Hallway	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 300	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		

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Classroom 300	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 300	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 300 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 300 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 300 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 300 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 300 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 300 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 301	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 301	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 301	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 301 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 301 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 301 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 301 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 301 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 301 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 302	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 302	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 302	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 302 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 302 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 302 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 302 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 302 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 302 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 303	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 303	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Classroom 303	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 303	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 303 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 303 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 303 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 303 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 303 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 303 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 304	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 304	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 304	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 304 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 304 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 304 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		

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Classroom 304 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 304 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 304 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Office 307	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Office 307	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Restroom next to Office 307	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Restroom next to Office 307	Vibration Damper Cloth	Significantly damaged.	Partial removal scheduled for Sep-Dec 2025.
Restroom next to Office 307	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 305	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 305	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 305	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 305 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 305 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 305 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 305 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 305 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 305 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 306	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 306	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Classroom 306	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 306 Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Classroom 306 Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
Classroom 306 Air Shaft 3	Mortar		
Classroom 306 Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Classroom 306 Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Classroom 306 Closet Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Main Hallway	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Main Hallway	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Main Hallway	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Teacher's Lounge	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
Teacher's Lounge	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
Teacher's Lounge	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
Teacher's Lounge	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Boy's Southwest Restroom	Transite associated with Stall, Restroom		
Boy's Southwest Restroom	Transite associated with Gang Urinal Chase Lid		
IMC (Library)	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
IMC (Library)	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
IMC (Library) Office	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		

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IMC (Library) Office	Glue Dots associated with Blackboard		
IMC (Library) Office	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		
IMC (Library) Office	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
IMC (Library) Closet	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
IMC (Library) Closet	Floor Tile VAT 9" x 9"		
Fan Room next to IMC (Library)	Expansion Seam Caulking associated with Ductwork, Interior		
Fan Room next to IMC (Library)	Gasket associated with Door, Fan Unit		
Fan Room next to IMC (Library)	Tar associated with Fiberglass Pipe Insulation		
Fan Room next to IMC (Library)	Transite associated with Electrical Panel		
Fan Room Fresh Air Intake Chamber	Expansion Seam Caulking associated with Ductwork, Interior		
Inside Fan Unit	Expansion Seam Caulking associated with Ductwork, Interior		
Masonry Supply Plenum	Expansion Seam Caulking associated with Ductwork, Interior		
Cafeteria Air Shaft 1	Mortar		
Cafeteria Air Shaft 2	Mortar		
South Hallway outside of IMC	Mastic associated with Floor Tile		
South Hallway outside of IMC	Floor Tile VAT 12" x 12"		