



Green Cleaning & Infection Control

The Salt Lake City School District Experience

June 27th 2011

Custodial Services



About Us

- There are 36 schools in our district. In May 1999, A 10-year construction program began to built schools that were safer, brighter, and can be used as community centers after school hours.
- Our students hail from around the world. Ethnic minorities make up 53% of our students, and the district serves a significant refugee population from Eastern European or African countries. Approximately 60% of our students come from low-income families, and just over 33% of them are learning English as a second language.
- The School District employs approximately 2,840 people, including 1,250 teachers. The district serves approximately 24,000 students, and over 80 languages are spoken in the halls of Salt Lake City schools.

What Is Our Direction?

Our Green cleaning initiatives are to create a teaching environment that is conducive to learning and provides protection of the occupants health, while reducing impacts on the environment.

We believe in pursuing an effective approach to cleaning for health that relies on the use of easy to follow cleaning practices united with the use of current green technologies and employee training that will allow us to also be environmentally sensitive.

Interesting Tidbits

- Some interesting bits about schools related to health and cleaning:
 - 25% of the Nation spends their entire day in a school,
 - Bleach while being good for disinfection, is often misused by cleaning personnel. It is frequently improperly diluted , improperly labeled or mixed with other chemicals that can cause dangerous gasses.
 - Salt Lake City 1901: there was a Diphtheria/ Small pox outbreak in our schools. Medical officers responded by spraying classrooms and books with Formaldehyde gas.

Back In The Day

Pre- Green

We thought we were doing well but.....

We used bleach 4 times a week and a quaternary disinfectant once a week. Applied by sponge, rag or Johnny mop,



Back In The Day

We would use part time poorly trained sweepers(youth with their first job) to clean the restrooms.

Classroom doors were cleaned annually!

Latex gloves used by cleaning staff.



Back In The Day

Carpets were cleaned once a year with the bonnet- buffer method.

Biological events were cleaned up using dry powder/ sweep method.



Back In The Day

- Toxic chemicals
- Poorly applied
- Cross contamination
- Unvested, poorly trained employees
- Latex allergies
- Sticky floors
- Unpleasant odors

Where Are We Today?

- Since September 2008
 - Fulltime career employees cleaning the rest rooms/ locker rooms.
 - Hydrogen-peroxide based cleaner used 4 times a week.
 - “Shot gun” cleaning of the rest room performed at least once a week with a disinfectant.
 - Color coded micro-fiber rags and compartmentized buckets used to reduce cross contamination.
 - Foaming hand soap

Where Are We Today?

- Since September 2008
 - High traffic doors/ walls are wiped daily
 - Hard surface cleaners are Hydrogen-peroxide based.
 - Spray bottles of peroxide based cleaners are provided to all classroom teachers for daily desk cleaning.
 - Foaming sprayer heads are used to reduce inhalation of chemicals.
 - Micro fiber rags are used.
 - All cleaning operations done with the use of Nitrile gloves.
 - Non-alcohol foaming hand sanitizer provided at all cafeterias, daycare areas, severely handicap units.

Carpet Cleaning

Our carpets are cleaned by the use of a truck mount carpet extractor.

Kindergartens, daycare, and special needs class rooms are cleaned quarterly.

Biological events are extracted immediately. Bacteria eating enzymes are used in this process.



High Risk Times

A stock of" instant
kill claim
"disinfectant is kept
on hand and is
ready to be
deployed to any
outbreak hot spot at
a moments notice.

High visibility P.R.
and immediate
response is critical
at this time.



District-Wide Communications



Back in the day.....Pagers

District-Wide Communications

Today... Instant 2-way communication, e-mail, Computer literate Custodians, a shared intranet and the world wide web!

Security cameras

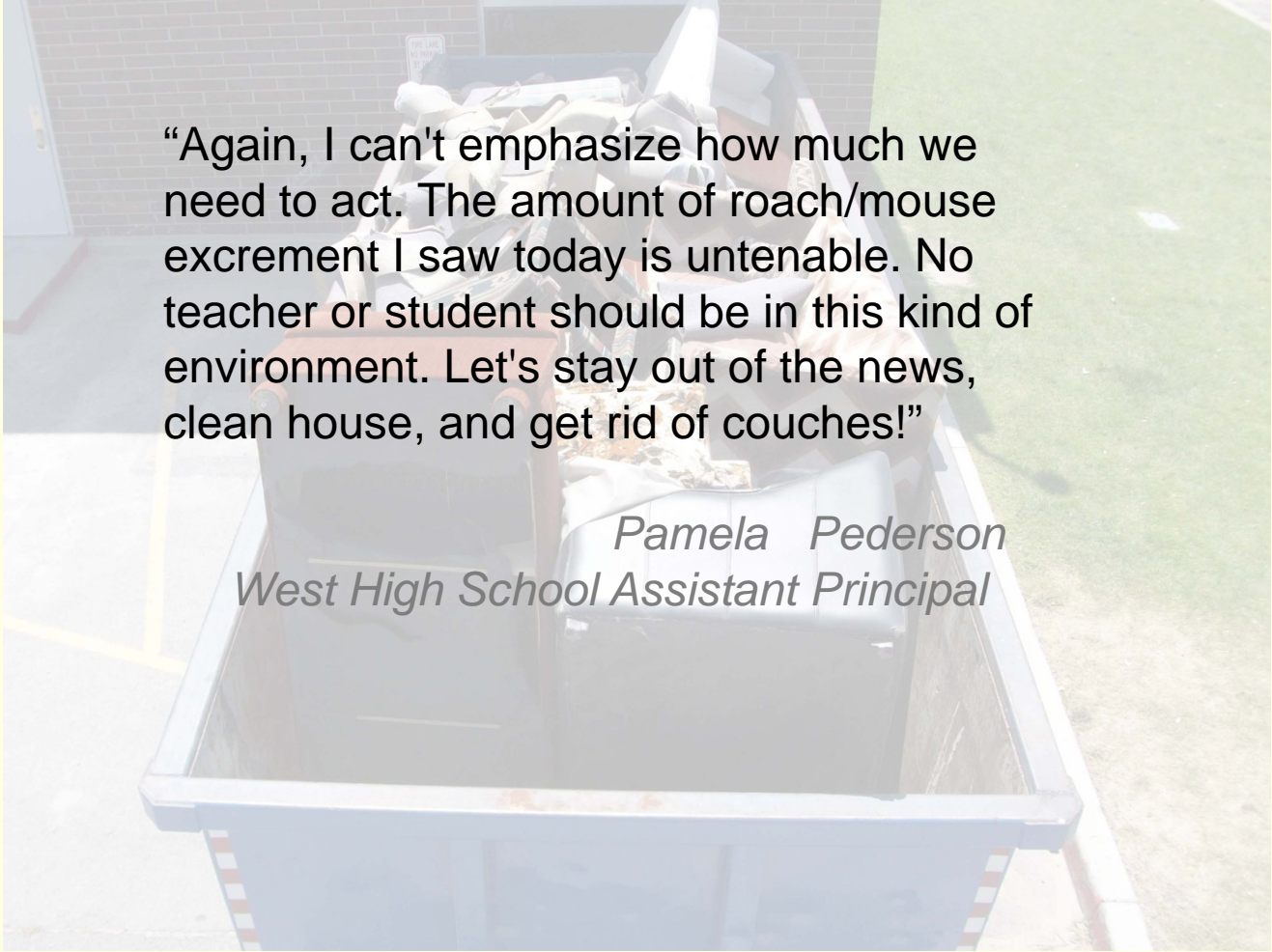


Custodial Training

Our Custodians receive quarterly training in the latest cleaning methods, chemical changes, IPM measures and indoor air quality updates.



IPM Training



“Again, I can't emphasize how much we need to act. The amount of roach/mouse excrement I saw today is untenable. No teacher or student should be in this kind of environment. Let's stay out of the news, clean house, and get rid of couches!”

*Pamela Pederson
West High School Assistant Principal*

What Is IPM

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of common-sense practices. IPM programs use current, comprehensive information on the life cycles of pests and their interaction with the environment. This information, in combination with available pest control methods, is used to manage pest damage by the most economical means, and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

Simply put:

Keep them out.

Don't feed them.

If you do get them, eliminate them in the least toxic way.

What Have We Done?!

- Today, in our school district:
 - Risk of exposure to pathogens carried by “pests” are greatly reduced,
 - Preventive measures are taken in classrooms daily.
 - Our restrooms/ shower rooms,
 - Do not smell of cleaners or chlorine,
 - The floors are not sticky
 - Employees are no longer exposed to latex or chlorine.

Going Green Can Save \$\$\$\$\$\$

- Some Green chemicals are less expensive (glass cleaner, graffiti remover)
- Change of process/ equipment combined with a change of chemicals can save labor costs.

The end

