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SAFETY ALERT

No. 12-02

Asbestos Warning Signs

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School districts are required inspect their schools for asbestos-containing building material and prepare management plans to prevent or reduce asbestos hazards. A vital part of the LAUSD's management includes the marking of access points to restricted areas that contain asbestos.

Many attics and crawlspaces in older buildings contain asbestos insulated pipes and ductwork. Some of these locations are known to contain damaged or deteriorated asbestos containing materials, however; when appropriately managed, these conditions do not present health risks to building occupants. The District's Asbestos Technical Unit (ATU) has marked the outside of such locations with signage clearly indicating the danger of asbestos and restriction of unauthorized access.

If a sign has been removed or has deteriorated beyond recognition, these areas are also noted in each site's Asbestos Management Plan which details the locations of identified or assumed asbestos-containing materials. For additional information contact the ATU at (213) 745-1450 or at atu@lausd.net.

Finally, the access to these restricted locations are often locked and/or sealed with plastic to prevent unauthorized access. Ensure your staff is aware that entry into attics and crawlspaces is strictly prohibited regardless of whether asbestos dangers have been identified, as these areas may also contain other hazards.

Inquiries regarding health and safety concerns may be addressed to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (213) 241-3199 or you may visit www.lausd-oehs.org for additional information.

