

June 17, 2004

MEMORANDUM

To: Joe Harrison, Richard E. Smith, and Dane Theodore

From: Jim Powers *JP* **Copy:** Ed Curry, Gary Geiser, and Mark Langdorf

Re: **Reminder: Requirements to Determine Presence/Absence of Asbestos Materials During: Renovation, Remodel, Demolition, Maintenance and/or Repair on School Board of Brevard County (SBBC) Property**

Please remind your staff to continue being vigilant about avoiding unplanned impact to asbestos-containing building materials while performing routine maintenance, repair, renovation, remodeling and/or demolition activities on SBBC buildings.

I encourage you to share the following Regional Current Event with any/all of your staff who have responsibilities related to building maintenance, repair, renovation, remodeling, and/or demolition.

Recently, the Lake County School District received a \$62,000.00 fine for failing to follow asbestos identification and removal procedures during a renovation project at one of their high schools.

According to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Notice of Violation, the Lake County School District and a contractor (Collins & Aikman, Inc. hired by the district) received fines for the following reasons:

- Owner did not conduct an asbestos inspection/survey prior to renovation work.
- Contractor and Owner improperly removed asbestos containing building materials.
- Owner and Contractor removed asbestos containing materials without first notifying DEP.

According to local media coverage, the school district sustained significant parent/teacher concerns for student safety and operational scrutiny in addition to the regulatory fines.

I have been told by a reliable source that the actual cost to the school district was much more than \$62,000.00, due to the cost for extensive clean up (decontamination) activities and professional service fees.

The SBBC has not been involved with asbestos (and other regulated materials) issues during the past couple of years due in part to your communication and planning efforts. Please continue to notify and involve the SBBC, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, whenever you plan to impact any building materials. Our goal is to help you.

I am willing to provide you with a copy of the DEP Violation/Order and a related newspaper article, if you so desire.