

## FLOORING POLICY

### PREAMBLE:

In crafting this collaborative policy with the community, the Board of Trustees reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that students and staff are entitled to a safe and healthy school environment including flooring. Therefore, the District is taking proactive steps to avoid harm and improve indoor air quality. Regulatory systems may fail to take into account children's unique vulnerabilities. For those flooring products where scientific information is incomplete, district policy should adhere to an overabundance of caution until flooring products are proven safe for students and staff.

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES for all materials involved in the flooring process, including the flooring, underlayment, adhesives, floor leveling compounds, and other components of the process.

1. Flooring products should have and maintain an independent third party Green/Eco-Friendly Certifications including, but not limited to the following:
  - Nordic Swan Ecolabel
  - Floor Score by SCSglobal Services
  - UL ECOLOGO
  - Green Circle Certified
  - Health Care without Harm
2. Flooring products should be free of chemicals of concern for Staff and Student's health including, but not limited to the following:
  - Red List Products
  - Polyurethane/Isocyanates
  - Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) or brominated flame retardants
  - Phthalates
  - Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)
  - Cadmium
  - Lead or other heavy metals
  - Formaldehyde
  - Styrene/butadiene and byproducts (4-PC)
  - PFOAs (short and long chain perfluoroalkyl substances)
  - Bisphenol A (BPA)
3. When reviewing flooring products, staff will consider the following:
  - Flooring less likely to exacerbate moisture/mold and allergens issues or to transmit infectious diseases.
  - Total Cost of Ownership (TCO): An analysis of cost that considers initial cost of materials and installation, but also any costs associated with the acquisition, use, and disposal of

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the product. These costs may include some or all of the following: installation, operation/energy use, maintenance including labor, cleaning equipment and materials, warranty, end-of-life disposal or recycling, as well as social or environmental costs, such as the cost of purchasing pollution offsets or monitoring labor practices.

- Transparency in the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD), Health Product Declaration (HPD) that reflects the product's composition and manufacturing.
- Sustainability of supply chain (e.g. FSC certified or post-consumer recycled content, with the exception of hazardous recycled materials like recycled tires or coal fly ash).
- Crosscheck that ingredients do not appear on regulatory lists, including Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Prop 65, (EPA, n/d.), or active investigations (e.g. DTSC priority products).
- The need to use hazardous chemicals such as floor stripper and cleaning chemicals to maintain the floors.
- Any unfolding academic research on chemicals of concern.
- Feedback from teachers, community, parents, administrators, and other users.