

SECTION E
SUPPORT SERVICES

3. Buildings and Grounds

a. School Safety and Security: (Voted 6/30/83, #83-325; 9/10/98, #98-81)

The Brookline School Committee recognizes that safety is everyone's proper concern, and when home, school, and community cooperate by instruction and example, accidents are reduced. It shall be the policy of the Brookline School Committee to guard against accidents by taking every possible precaution to protect the safety of all students, employees, visitors, and others present on school property or at school-sponsored events.

To carry out this policy, the principal or head of school shall develop the appropriate rules and regulations in accordance with State and local ordinances. With regard to community and/or after school hours use of buildings, users will comply with this policy.

E 3 b. Buildings and Grounds Management: (Voted 2/28/84, #84-69)

In order to protect, operate, and improve the buildings under their control, the Brookline School Committee directs staff to develop and implement regulations for managing the use of buildings, and to coordinate grounds care with the Park Department. This shall include Building and Grounds Security, Maintenance, Custodial Services, Traffic and Parking Controls, Records and Reports.

E 3 c. Pesticide Policy (Voted 2/17/22, #22-9; 4/7/22, #22-24)

It is the policy of the Brookline School Committee to promote the health and safety of our school communities by minimizing the use of toxic pesticides to the greatest extent practicable and to manage pests in and around schools in a manner that protects human health, maintains the integrity of school buildings and grounds, and preserves the environment. The Public Schools of Brookline (PSB) are committed to the sustainable management of pests through the use of sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM), or its equivalent, that focuses on eliminating pest access to food, water and shelter in and around our schools. In addition, PSB is committed to complying with the Massachusetts Children's and Families Protection Act as a minimum standard that this policy exceeds.

Integrated pest management is a comprehensive process that utilizes information about plants, pests and the environment to plan and implement management tactics in overall strategies to keep pests below levels that cause damage. For the PSB, integrated pest management specifically involves cooperative regular monitoring of plant material and pest levels, and prohibiting toxic pesticides, including glyphosate and 2,4-D, unless as a last resort in emergency situations only when other means of control are ineffective, or economically unfeasible.

Proper grounds management techniques reduce stress and encourage good health in plants. These include proper planning and cultural practices, such as watering, fertilizing, mowing, core aeration, pruning and mulching. It is important that these practices be done at proper times and intervals.