

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

WRITTEN PLAN

Intermediate School District 917

July 2025

This written plan documents steps Intermediate School District 917 (ISD 917) has taken to minimize injury, resulting from various occupational hazards present at our sites, by protecting workers through the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) when the hazards cannot be eliminated.

Amy Alexander is the program coordinator, acting as the representative of the School Board, who has overall responsibility for the program. Annual training on employee's use of PPE will be conducted by a consultant, one-on-one, or viewing a video or computer-based training module. Procurement of PPE is done by contacting Linda Berg who will select the equipment and place the orders. This written plan is kept in the district office and will be reviewed annually.

ISD 917 believes its obligation is to provide a hazard-free environment to its employees. Any employee encountering hazardous conditions must be protected against the potential hazards. The purpose of protective clothing and equipment (PPE) is to shield or isolate individuals from chemical, physical, biological, or other hazards that may be present in the workplace. (See also separate written plans for the respiratory protection and hearing conservation programs.)

Establishing an overall written PPE program detailing how employees use PPE makes it easier to ensure that they use PPE properly in the workplace, and documents our PPE efforts in the event of an OSHA inspection. Our PPE program covers:

- Purpose
- Hazard assessment
- PPE selection
- Employee training
- Cleaning and maintenance of PPE
- PPE specific information

If after reading this program you find that improvements can be made, please contact Amy Alexander at 651-423-8229. We encourage all suggestions as we are committed to the success of our Personal Protective Equipment Program. We strive for clear understanding, safe behavior, and involvement in the program from every level of the school district.

Purpose of Program

The basic element of any PPE program is an in depth evaluation of the equipment needed to protect against the hazards at the workplace; this is the initial hazard assessment for which written documentation is required. Two basic objectives of any PPE program should be to protect the wearer from incorrect use and/or malfunction of PPE. The purpose of this Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Program is to document the hazard assessment, protective measures in place, and PPE in use at this workplace. PPE devices are not to be relied on as the only means to provide protection against hazards, but are used in conjunction with guards, engineering controls, and sound work practices. If possible, hazards will be abated first through engineering controls, with PPE to provide protection against hazards, which cannot reasonably be abated otherwise.

Hazard Assessment

In order to assess the need for PPE the following steps are taken:

1. The Health and Safety Coordinator and the Assistant Directors and/or Directors will have identified the job classifications where exposures occur or could occur. The business office examines the First Reports of Injury.
2. The Health and Safety Coordinator and the Assistant Directors and/or Directors conduct on going walk through surveys of workplace areas where hazards exist or may exist to identify sources of hazards to employees. Employees are also asked to inform the Health and Safety Coordinator of any hazards in their work. The basic hazard categories are:
 - Impact
 - Heat
 - Penetration
 - Harmful dust
 - Compression (roll over)
 - Light (optical) radiation
 - Chemical
 - Noise
 - Body Fluids

During the walk-through surveys the Health and Safety Coordinator and the Assistant Directors and/or Directors observe and record the following hazards. Employees also provide information during training sessions.

- Sources of motion; i.e., machinery or processes where any movement of tools, machine elements, or particles could exist or movement of personnel that could result in collision

with stationary objects: Heavy Duty Truck Technology Careers-vehicles; Graphic Communications; Vehicle Services – moving vehicles and lifts; Custodial/Maintenance – HVAC units; Grounds – lawn mowers and snow blowers.

- Sources of high temperatures that could result in burns, eye injury or ignition: Heavy Duty Truck Technology Careers; Total Auto Care - welders, torches, plasma cutter; Custodial – boilers.
- Chemical exposures could occur in: Heavy Duty Truck Technology Careers and Total Auto Care – paint, parts washer, auto chemicals; Science; Custodial – cleaning chemicals, boiler chemicals.
- Exposures to harmful dusts are covered in the Respiratory Protection Program.
- Exposures to sources of light radiation, i.e., welding, brazing, cutting, high intensity lights, ultra-violet light etc. occur in: Heavy Duty Truck Technology Careers– welding; Total Auto Care – welding and torching.
- Sources of falling objects or potential for dropping objects occur in: Total Auto Care-vehicles on lifts; Construction; where hard hats are worn.
- Sources of sharp objects which might pierce the feet or cut the hands have been observed in: Graphic Communication; Total Auto Care-sheet metal; Science.
- Sources of rolling or pinching objects, which could crush the feet, have been observed in: Total Auto Care – vehicles moving.
- Sources of excess noise are covered in the Hearing Conservation Program written plan.
- Exposures to potentially infectious body fluids occur in all shop type programs where first aid could be needed.
- Electrical hazards can occur in: Graphic Communications; Total Auto Care; Heavy Duty Truck; Custodial; Construction.

An estimate of the potential for injuries has been made. Each of the basic hazards has been reviewed and a determination made as to the frequency, type, level of risk, and seriousness of potential injury from each of the hazards found. The existence of any situations where multiple exposures occur or could occur has been considered.

Selection Guidelines/Purchasing

Once any hazards have been identified and evaluated through hazard assessment, the general procedure for selecting protective equipment is to:

1. Become familiar with the potential hazards and the type of PPE that is available, and what they can do.
2. Compare types of equipment to the hazards associated with the environment.

3. Select the PPE, which ensures a level of protection greater than the minimum required to protect employees from the hazards.
4. Fit the user with proper, comfortable, well fitting protection and instruct employees on care and use of the PPE. It is very important that the users are aware of all warning labels for and limitations of their PPE.

Amy Alexander will do selection of PPE with the assistance of the Assistant Director and/or Director.

Never will PPE be denied, limited or said to be not available due to departmental budgets.

It is the responsibility of Amy Alexander (with the aid of a consultant) to reassess the workplace hazard situation as necessary, to identify and evaluate new equipment and processes, to review accident records, and reevaluate the suitability of previously selected PPE. This reassessment will be ongoing.

Elements, which should be considered in the reassessment, include:

- Adequacy of PPE program
- Accidents and illness experience
- Levels of exposure (this implies appropriate exposure monitoring if needed)
- Adequacy of equipment selection
- Number of person hours that workers wear various protective ensembles
- Adequacy of training/fitting of PPE
- Program costs
- Recommendation for program improvement and modification
- Coordination with overall safety and health program

Employee Training

Annual training is required to use personal protective equipment. Training will be accomplished using SafeSchools Online Learning. Training includes:

- When PPE is necessary
- What PPE is necessary
- How to wear assigned PPE
- Limitations of PPE
- The proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of assigned PPE

Employees must demonstrate an understanding of the training and the ability to use the PPE properly before they are allowed to perform work requiring the use of the equipment.

Employees are prohibited from performing work without donning appropriate PPE to protect them from the hazards they will encounter in the course of that work. Supervisors are responsible to see that employees wear their PPE.

If the Assistant Director and/or Director has reason to believe an employee does not have the understanding or skill required, the employee must be retrained. Circumstances where retraining may be required include changes in the workplace, changes in the types of PPE to be used that would render previous training obsolete, and inadequacies in an affected employee's knowledge or use of the assigned PPE that indicates the employee has not retained the necessary understanding or skills.

The trainer certifies in writing that the employee has received and understands the PPE training. Annual training records will be kept on file in the Health and Safety Office, located in the District Office.

Because failure to comply with district guidelines concerning PPE can result in OSHA citations and fines as well as employee injury, an employee who does not comply with this program will be disciplined for insubordination according to their contract.

Cleaning and Maintenance

It is important that all PPE be kept clean and properly maintained by the employee to whom it is assigned. Cleaning is particularly important for eye and face protection where dirty or fogged lenses could impair vision. PPE is to be inspected, cleaned, and maintained by employees at regular intervals as part of their normal job duties so that the PPE provides the requisite protection. Instructors and the lead Custodian are responsible for ensuring compliance with cleaning responsibilities by employees. If a piece of PPE is in need of repair or replacement, it is the responsibility of the employee to bring it to the immediate attention of their supervisor. It is against work rules to use PPE that is in disrepair or not able to perform its intended function. Contaminated PPE, which cannot be decontaminated, is disposed of in a manner that protects employees from exposure to hazards.

PPE Specific Information

Body Protection - Aprons, Lab Coats, Chaps, Jackets, Smocks

It is the policy of the district as a condition of employment, all regular, full time, part time, and temporary employees working in a designated work area and/or job assignment are required to wear aprons, lab coats, chaps or jackets to help prevent injury to the body resulting from chemicals, light radiation, flying particles, for example. See the following list:

Heavy Duty Truck Technology Careers, Total Auto Care, - Shop coats and welding

Science, - lab coats, aprons

Eye Protection -Goggles, Face Shields and Safety Eyewear

All regular full time, part time, and temporary employees working in designated work area and/or job assignments are required to wear ANSI approved goggles/face shields to help prevent eye and face injuries, including those resulting from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or light radiation. See the following list:

Goggles, Face Shields or Safety Eyewear -- Total Auto Care, Heavy Duty Truck Technology Careers, Graphic Communications, Computer Repair, Networking and Video Game Design; Construction Trades

Safety Eyewear -- Computer Repair, Networking, and Video Game Design, Construction Trades

Goggles - Science

Foot Protection-Safety Shoes

All regular full time, part time, and temporary employees working in designated work areas and/or job assignments are required to wear safety shoes to help prevent foot injuries, ankle injuries, slips, and falls. Employees in the following designated work areas are required to wear OSHA approved safety shoes:

Construction, Heavy Duty Truck, Total Auto Care, Maintenance- Safety Shoes

Hand Protection – Gloves

All regular full time, part time, and temporary employees working in designated work areas and/or job assignments are required to wear gloves to help prevent hand injuries, including cuts, burns, and chemical exposure. Employees in the following designated work areas are required to wear protective gloves:

Leather gloves, hot gloves, and chemical gloves – Total Auto Care; Heavy Duty Truck

Chemical gloves, leather gloves – Maintenance

Head protection -- Hard hats

All regular full time, part time, and temporary employees working in designated work areas and/or job assignments are required to wear ANSI approved hard hats to help prevent head injuries, including those resulting from falling objects, bumping the head against a fixed object, or electrical shock.

Employees in the following designated work areas are required to wear hard hats: None.

In Addition

Employees from temporary work agencies and contractors are required to wear PPE if assigned to work in the designated work areas.

All assistant supervisors are responsible for ensuring employees under their charge are in

compliance with this written plan.

All employees who work in designated work areas and/or job assignments are responsible for wearing district provided PPE to comply with this written plan. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.

All employees required to wear PPE must routinely inspect and properly care for their PPE.