

7432 EYE PROTECTION

The Board of Education directs the rigorous implementation and enforcement of eye safety practices for pupils, staff members, all support staff and visitors exposed to conditions potentially hazardous to the eyes in the instructional program of this district.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the continual monitoring of the school program, including, but not limited to, all vocational education, industrial arts education, science education, technology education and arts education, for conditions under which pupils, staff members, all support staff or visitors are exposed to a process or activity that might have a tendency to cause damage to the eyes.

Each pupil, staff member, employee and visitor exposed to a condition identified as hazardous to the eyes must wear an eye protective device appropriate to the activity and certified to meet the standards established by the State Board of Education, the American National Standard Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection, ANSI Z87.1-1979, and American National Standard Practice for the Safe Use of Lasers, ANSI Z136.1-1986 and the New Jersey Administrative Code. The eye protective device shall be supplied by the Board, except that the pupil, staff member, or visitor may wear personal eye wear that is appropriate to the activity and certified, in writing, by a licensed optician or other qualified licensed eye professional to meet or exceed those standards. District owned eye protective devices shall be inspected regularly by the appropriate staff member, and defective or poorly fitting devices shall be repaired or discarded. Any shared eye protective devices shall be disinfected between uses by the method prescribed by the school medical inspector or manufacturer of the devices.

Each classroom, shop, laboratory, and other area of the school in which pupils or staff members are exposed to caustic materials that can cause damage to the eyes shall be equipped with an emergency eye wash fountain in accordance with standards established by the Department of Education.

The building principals/supervisors shall ensure that each area in the school district identified as housing an activity hazardous to the eyes shall be posted with conspicuous signs that warn participants that an appropriate eye protective device must be worn during the activity. Staff members of such activities are responsible for instructing pupils in appropriate eye safety practices and for serving as exemplary models in the implementation of such practices.

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A pupil who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices may be dismissed from the day's class by his or her teacher. Such dismissal from class may be considered to be an absence, in accordance with Board policy on pupil attendance, and an accumulation of such absences may result in loss of course credit.

A staff member who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices may be disciplined for insubordination for failing to obey the rules established by this Board. The proper implementation of eye protection practices shall be a criterion in the evaluation of every staff member required to observe such practices.

A visitor to the schools who refuses or persistently neglects to wear an eye protective device when required to do so or fails to observe established eye safety practices may be requested to leave the school premises.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.1; 18A:40-12.2
N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.5

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R 7432 EYE PROTECTION PRACTICES

A. Eye Protection Devices

1. The following types of eye protective devices must be worn by all pupils, staff members, support staff and visitors (including persons attending evening adult school programs) participating in the activity or process designated wherever it may occur on school premises:

<u>Potential eye hazard</u>	<u>Protective devices</u>
Caustic or explosive	Goggle, flexible fitting materials, hooded ventilation; add plastic window face shield for severe exposure
Dust producing operations	Goggle, flexible fitting, hooded ventilation
Electric arc welding	Welding helmet in combination with spectacles with eye cup or semi- or flat-fold side shields
Oxy-acetylene welding	Welding goggle, eye cup type with tinted lenses; welding goggle, coverspec type with tinted lenses or tinted plate lens
Hot liquids and gases	Goggle, flexible fitting, hood ventilation; add plastic window face shield for severe exposure; Spectacles with side shields
Hot solids	Clear or tinted goggles or spectacles with side shields
Molten materials	Clear or tinted goggles and plastic or mesh window face shield

Heat treatment or tempering	Clear or tinted goggles or clear or tinted spectacles with side shields
<u>Potential eye hazard</u>	<u>Protective devices</u>
Glare operations	Tinted goggles; tinted spectacles with side shields or welding goggles, eye cup or coverage type with tinted lenses or plate lens
Shaping solid materials	Clear goggles, flexible or rigid body; clear spectacles with side shields; add plastic window face shield for severe exposure
Laser device operation or experimentation	Appropriate for specific hazard
Repair or servicing of vehicles	Clear goggles, flexible or rigid body; clear spectacles with side shields
Projectile Eye Hazard	Goggle, flexible fitting, hood ventilation; add plastic window face shield for severe exposure; Spectacles with side shields
Other potentially hazardous processes or activities	Appropriate for specific hazard

2. The supplier of any eye protective device to this district shall certify in writing that the device meets or exceeds ANSI standards. All spectacle type eye protective devices shall have side shields of the eye cup, semi-, or flat-fold type.
3. Staff members shall regularly and frequently inspect the eye protective devices used in their classes or in the performance of their job and shall report to their Supervisor devices that are defective or poorly fitting. All eye protective devices shall be properly stored when not in use.
4. An eye protective device that is shared shall be disinfected between uses by a method prescribed by the local school medical inspector or manufacturer of the device.

5. The use of contact lenses shall be restricted in learning environments which entail exposure to chemical fumes, vapors or splashes, intense heat, molten metals, or highly particulate atmospheres.

When permitted, contact lenses may be worn only in conjunction with appropriate eye protective devices. The contact lens wearer shall be identified for appropriate emergency eye care in hazardous learning environments.

6. A pupil who wears prescription glasses shall be provided with an appropriate eye protective device that fits over his or her glasses. A pupil or staff member may wear his or her personal corrective eye wear in the course of an activity hazardous to the eyes provided that the eye wear has been certified in writing by a licensed optician to meet or exceed ANSI standards as defined in N.J.A.C. 6:29-1.7(b)1 and 2 for the appropriate eye protective device required.
7. The responsible staff member will provide an appropriate eye protective device for each visitor in areas where activity hazardous to eyes is conducted.

B. Eye Wash Fountains

1. Eye wash fountains or similar devices, capable of a minimum of fifteen minutes of continuous flow of eye wash solution shall be provided in accordance with Policy No. 7432 and the standards of the State Department of Education and N.J.A.C. 6:29-1.7(d).
2. Eye wash fountains shall be routinely checked by the responsible staff member and any fountain that does not operate properly shall be promptly reported to their Supervisor and repaired.

C. Enforcement

1. Staff members shall not permit pupils to engage in an activity potentially hazardous to the eyes without appropriate eye protection and shall dismiss from the class period a pupil who refuses or persistently neglects to wear eye protection or to observe established eye protection practices.
2. Staff members shall report to the building principal a visitor who refuses or persistently neglects to wear eye protection or observe established eye protection practices.

3. Supervisors and staff shall annually inspect the school premises for the existence of conditions potentially hazardous to the eyes, for the placement of signs requiring appropriate eye protective devices, and for an adequate supply of appropriate eye protective devices in satisfactory condition. Conditions potentially hazardous to the eyes include, in addition to the activities listed in ¶A1 above, the likelihood of flying objects and spilled liquids and the presence of protruding and sharp objects.

D. Training and Supplies

1. The school district shall provide training and appropriate supplies and equipment to all school personnel responsible for implementing the eye safety policies and program. The training shall include all aspects of eye protection as defined in this regulation.

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