

Terrell County ISD

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing about our program aimed at keeping our schools healthy and pest free. This program is geared toward preventing pest problems. I want to let you know how you can help.

Control of insects and rodents at our schools involves making the school building and grounds an unfavorable place for pests to live and breed. Through maintenance and cleaning, we will reduce or eliminate available food and water sources and hiding places for pests. We will also routinely monitor the school area to identify pest problems and prevent pests from becoming established. In addition to cleaning and monitoring, we will use other strategies such as pest exclusion, proper food storage, pest removal, and pesticides. This approach is often called integrated pest management (IPM) because it relies on a variety of best management strategies to control pests. Some of these methods can be used to keep pests out of homes and gardens too.

You may be wondering how you can help. Listed below is a list of actions you can take that will help prevent or reduce pest problems in our school. Pest management involves everyone in the school-community working together to make our school a safe, healthy place for children to learn.

Checklist:

- Explain the importance of not leaving food in desks and lockers to avoid pests such as mice and ants.
- Send your child to school with only one day's worth of food
- Know where to find information about integrated pest management at your child's school
- Avoid sending insect repellents to school with your child
- Assist your child in keeping his/her backpack clean and organized
- Notify the school of any health related concern

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sam Magallan
IPM Coordinator
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