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FILE NO: 37077.015082

July 8, 2016

**BY EMAIL**

Members, Board of Zoning Appeals  
c/o Hyojung K. Garland, LEED AP, Deputy Director  
Town of Vienna  
127 Center Street, South  
Vienna, Virginia 22180

**Fairfax County School Board**  
**CUP Application for Louise Archer Elementary School**  
**Fairfax County Tax Map Parcel 38-3-((2))-17 (the "Property")**

Dear BZA Members:

At the Planning Commission meeting on June 22nd, it was requested that the Applicant provide the Board of Zoning Appeals a maintenance schedule and plan of action for rodent control for students to address concerns raised by the community. Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) follows an Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM) which is in compliance with Virginia's Department of Education's publication, "Integrated Pest Management Guidelines for Virginia Schools (K-12)," a copy of which is attached for your information.

The basic components of the FCPS Integrated Pest Management Program are:

- **Monitoring** – The regular surveillance of an area through visual inspections, staff interviews, and the use of traps and monitors. Surveys are conducted to determine if a pest problem exists, the location and size of an infestation, and conditions that may be contributing to the pest issue. Pest management inspections are done twice a year for each school, during winter and summer breaks, and include visual inspections of common areas and any additional area as instructed by the building custodial supervisor. Spraying or treatment for pests is only done in response to an observation or complaint from an occupant. IPM Guidelines recommends pest management plans avoid routine spraying of chemicals in facilities as to limit unnecessary exposure to the occupants.



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- **Sanitation/Structural Repairs** – Pest problems can often be prevented through proper sanitation, reduction of clutter and pest harborage, and by performing repairs to structures to prevent the intrusion of pests.
- **Communication** – Staff and student cooperation in correcting conditions that contribute to pest problems is essential to the success of an IPM program. Training and education programs on subjects such as pest identification, biology, and sanitation can be conducted to promote understanding and assistance with the IPM program.
- **Record Keeping** – Monitoring data on pest occurrences and observation of housekeeping and structural deficiencies are recorded in a logbook maintained at each facility. FCPS utilizes a work order system, where school staff can enter work order requests for pest control issues in between regularly scheduled preventative maintenance visits by the pest control technician.
- **Pest Control without Pesticides** – IPM practices such as trapping, screening, caulking, steam cleaning, and power washing are effective long term pest control methods. Non-pesticide pest control practices can be effective and utilized with a high degree of safety.
- **Pest Control with Pesticides** – Pesticide use may be necessary in an IPM program to effectively control pest infestations, but can only be used after non-chemical methods fail. Pesticide applications should only be performed as a last resort and must be applied in a manner which will maximize the effectiveness in controlling the target pest as well as minimize the exposure of the pesticides to humans and non-targeted species.
- **Program Evaluation** – Monitoring data and observations are periodically summarized and reviewed to evaluate the program effectiveness. IPM practices and procedures are continually adopted and modified based on past experiences, results, and knowledge gained over time regarding the associated issues at each particular facility.



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IPM was performed at Louise Archer Elementary School in January, 2016. Subsequently, FCPS performed additional maintenance in April in response to concerns raised about the presence of field mice in the vicinity of the modular classroom at the school. FCPS placed pesticide cubes in some existing holes and filled them with soil. A bait box was placed in the area and has been continually monitored for rodent activity. To date, there has been no visual presence of field mice. The vegetation that is planted in this area may be a harborage for pests and may need to be cut back to address these concerns.

We would be happy to answer any additional questions regarding this matter at the BZA meeting on July 20, 2016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan K. Yantis".

Susan K. Yantis  
Senior Land Use Planner

Enclosures as stated

cc: Sunny Sarna, P.E., Fairfax County Public Schools  
Mike Coughlan, Director, Office of Facilities Management, Fairfax County Public Schools