



December 21, 2016

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PLUM BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

John Zahorchak
900 Elicker Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026

Re: Plum Borough School District

Dear John,

This letter is to confirm my visit on 12/7/2016. The purpose of our meeting was to review your company's operations and current safety efforts. It was a pleasure meeting you and touring the high school.

The recommendations included in this letter were developed as a result of discussions and conditions noted during the survey. I have submitted them for your review and action. Please provide me with a written response on the status of the recommendations within 30 days of your receipt of this letter. You may email your response to RCRecResponses@LibertyMutual.com or fax it to 603-430-1564.

Additionally, if you would like assistance on any safety related projects or information please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (724) 992-4784.

Respectfully,

Matt Musser
Consultant II

CC:
Bob Holleran, Plum Borough School District
Erica Puruczky, Arthur J. Gallagher
John Calizzi, Liberty Mutual Insurance

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Policy#: 8789328 ID: 21783

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Helping Customers Prevent Accidents Before They Happen

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- Access [Liberty Mutual SafetyNet™](#), our web-based tool designed to help you improve workplace safety
- Contact experienced specialists at our Risk Control Consulting Center weekdays--Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 8 PM Eastern Time. Call toll-free 1-866-757-7324 or email us at RCConsultingCenter@libertymutual.com

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

Rec. 2016-1 Housekeeping procedures in wood shop		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/19/2017
Recommendation Comment: Improve and enforce house keeping controls in the wood shop area of the high school. A thin film of dust was observed in the shop covering a vast area of the classroom surfaces. A large quantity of saw dust not only poses as a fire risk but, when airborne, can create an explosive atmosphere due to its combustibility. Enforce the schools procedures to maintain clean surfaces in the wood shop free from dust. Additionally, a number of extension cords and power strips were observed in this area. Extension cords should only be used as a temporary means of supplying electricity and are exposed to rapid deterioration. To reduce the risk of fire caused by electrical spark restrict the use of extension cords in this area. Power strips can become easily over loaded and increases the chance of a spark which could cause ignition to nearby combustibles. To reduce the risk of a fire caused by an electrical spark remove the power strips from the wood shop.		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

Rec. 2016-2 Flammable Liquids Storage Cabinet		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/10/2017
Recommendation Comment: Limit the amount of flammable liquids stored in the flammable liquids storage cabinet located in the auditorium behind the stage for storage of flammable/combustible liquids, aerosols, etc. The aggregate volume of the stored flammable/combustible liquids, aerosols, etc. should not exceed 120 gallons. Additional cabinets may be installed if necessary. The cabinet vent openings should be sealed with the bungs supplied or with bungs specified by the cabinet manufacturer. Venting of the cabinets is not recommended unless required by local jurisdictions. If required, venting should be installed per NFPA 13 – Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code.		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

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Rec. 2016-3 Restrict student access to the crows nest areas in the auditorium		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/19/2017
Recommendation Comment: Review the schools policies on students accessibility to the crows nest areas in the auditorium. Ensure the school has a policy to restrict students from this area as it exposes students as well as employees to fall hazards.		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

Rec. 2016-4 Slips, Trips, Falls in school auditorium		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/19/2017
Recommendation Comment: Look into ways of reducing the number of cords crossing walkway paths in the auditorium. Cords and wires crossing common walking paths where high traffic occurs increases the risk of individuals tripping leading to injury. Additionally, provide center handrails for the stairs on the balcony seating area in the auditorium. The handrails should allow continuous use without encountering support obstacles. Design and dimensions should be as found in applicable codes including Life Safety Code. OSHA 29 CFR 1910.24 can also be used for guidance.		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

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Rec. 2016-5 Playground Surface Safety		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/17/2017
Recommendation Comment:		
<p>In order to reduce injury potential in a fall from equipment add additional surfacing material to the playground area at Center Elementary. Depths of surfacing material may be obtained from the Handbook for Public Playground Safety. Use the link here for this handbook- http://www.cpsc.gov/PageFiles/122149/325.pdf . Earth surfaces such as soils and hard packed dirt are not effective in absorbing shock during a fall.</p> <p>Additionally, concrete footers on the bench and double lane slide were observed above ground. This may require the footers to be repoured at a lower depth as well as additional surfacing material to be place over top of the footers. Ensure that an adequate depth of surface material covers the concrete footers on both the bench and the double lane slide.</p>		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

Rec. 2016-6 Repair ripped, torn, and/or damaged padding in weight room		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/19/2017
Recommendation Comment:		
<p>Ripped, torn, and/or damaged padding on weight room equipment installed at the Junior High School building should be repaired or replaced.</p>		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

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Rec. 2016-7 Chemical Storage and Disposal Procedures		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/19/2017
Recommendation Comment: Establish a formal chemical inventory program for all chemical storage maintained by the Science Department in the High School. The formal program should outline the need for an inventory analysis at least once annually and identify proper disposal procedures for hazardous and non-hazardous waste pursuant to applicable local, state and federal regulations.		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

Rec. 2016-8 Reduce height of paper storage in paper storage room adjacent to print shop		
Location: 900 Elicker Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15239-1026		
Status: New	Assigned to: John Zahorchak	Target Date: 2/19/2017
Recommendation Comment: Reduce the height of the paper storage in the paper storage room. In this room, printing paper stored in corrugated boxes on pallets are stored to close to the ceiling. A clearance of 18 inches must be maintained between storage material and the sprinkler head to allow adequate discharge space in the event of a fire. Blocking spray radius could potentially reduce the effectiveness of the sprinkler head in controlling a fire.		
Customer Response:		Customer Comment:

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