

## **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **Background**

STEM Innovation Academy (SIA) is committed to providing safe and healthy working and learning environments for staff, students and visitors. SIA strives to eliminate hazards which may result in personal injury, illness or other losses. SIA believes that incidents and injuries can be prevented through effective management in combination with active staff involvement. Staff have the right to know about potential work hazards, an obligation to report unsafe conditions and the right to refuse unsafe work where there is imminent danger. The responsibility for health and safety is shared between the Board, employees, students, volunteers and contractors.

### **Definitions**

In this administrative procedure,

1. “Hazard” is any situation that may cause harm (physical, chemical, biological, or psychological in nature).
2. “Hazard Assessment” is a process that identifies and documents potential hazards and methods to eliminate or control them.
3. “Health and Safety Management System” is the implementation of specific management processes designated to decrease the incidence of injury, illness, and losses in the workplace.
4. “Incident” is an unplanned/unwanted event that results in harm or the potential for harm (injuries, illness, emergencies, property or environmental damage, near misses).
5. “Incident Investigation” determines the direct and indirect causes of an incident and identifies controls to prevent future incidents.
6. “Imminent Danger” is an immediate threat of danger that is not normal for an occupation or position.
7. “Near Miss Incident” is an unplanned/unwanted event with the potential to result in serious injury, illness, damage to equipment or property, or other losses.
8. “Workplace Inspection” is a walk-through of the work site to identify and document unsafe conditions for the purpose of hazard control.

### **Procedures**

1. STEM Innovation Academy shall meet legislated health and safety requirements and related school board Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Standards, safe work practices and procedures.
2. All SIA employees shall participate in the online health and safety and reporting program through PublicSchoolWORKS.
  - 2.1. Principal, Assistant Principal shall:
    - 2.1.1. Provide leadership and management necessary for workplace and learning activities in

compliance with legislation, safe work practices, procedures and guidelines.

- 2.1.2. Evaluate and control hazards in the work and learning environment.
- 2.1.3. Conduct regular work place hazard inspections in the work and learning environment.
- 2.1.4. Promptly investigate and report hazards and unsafe conditions to the contracted maintenance services for STEM Innovation Academy.
- 2.1.5. Complete health and safety orientation and training for all staff.
- 2.1.6. Promptly investigate incidents and work-related injuries, illnesses and near misses using the reporting forms contained online in PublicSchoolWORKS (Staff Accident Management Module and Hazard and Near Miss Reporting Module).
- 2.1.7. Promptly investigate, document and take corrective action regarding serious incidents.
- 2.1.8. Stop any work perceived to be of imminent danger to staff, students or the public.
- 2.1.9. Investigate employee work refusals due to perceived unsafe working conditions.
- 2.1.10. Prepare, update and implement site emergency plans annually.
- 2.1.11. Provide the appropriate first aid supplies and trained staff to address illness or injury.
- 2.1.12. Implement management practices to control/monitor the purchase, inventory, use, storage, transport and disposal of hazardous wastes.

3. Staff, Employees, Students, Volunteers and Contractors shall:

- 3.1. Adopt responsible health and safety behaviours and practices.
- 3.2. Comply with workplace healthy and safety legislation and board safe work practices and procedures.
- 3.3. Assist in the identification, evaluation and control of hazards in the working and learning environment.
- 3.4. Promptly report hazardous or unsafe equipment, acts or conditions using the reporting forms contained in PublicSchoolWORKS (Hazard and Near Miss Reporting Module).
- 3.5. Immediately report incidents including injuries or the potential for injury (near misses) using the reporting forms contained in PublicSchoolWORKS (Staff Accident Management Module and Hazard and Near Miss Reporting Module).

**Approved:** October 2021