



Environmental Health & Safety

Spring Edition



In this Issue



-
1. *EH&S Training Face-to-Face*
 2. *Leadership Changes in EH&S*
 3. *Water Conservation*

4. *The Women of EH&S*

5. *Light, Lights, Lights*

6. *April Safety Topic -Distracted Driving*

Face-to-Face Safety Training . . . Back, in Over-Drive



One of the many functions of the EH&S Department is to **share safety information with district staff** to ensure that staff maintains safety attitudes and behaviors as they perform their daily tasks.

Sometimes training is driven by Federal and State laws and/or regulations; other times, it is in response to accident data from Worker's Compensation or visual observation of workers behaviors.

During the last two months, EH&S has kicked into over-drive, catching up on several different types of safety training that must be facilitated face-to-face from CPR to Forklifts.

What we have accomplished in the last couple of months has once again proven just how much can be accomplished when there is committed and dedicated internal teamwork, and partnership with a network of other district departments.

CPR/AED/First Aid

Covid-19 wreaked havoc on Compliance with District's Policy 5303 ---(minimum of 2 CPR/AED/First Aid certified staff for each school and site). But, on the bright side, everyone is doing their part to make sure we correct the situation. Additionally, all Vehicle Maintenance garages (separate buildings from Transportation) have now been allocated AEDs and have CPR/AED/First Aid certified staff on hand for AM and PM shifts



1 - CPR Training Equipment



2 - CPR Training in Session with Transportation & SIU Certified Trainers



<https://sway.office.com/jXz41aBDA2tqjDiV#content=oKOKOtjv9kHKou>

3 - HANDS ONLY CPR DEMO

Lock Out & Tag Out

Controlled energy in all its forms (electrical, mechanical, thermo, chemical, gravity etc.) are essential to our modern way of life. However, sometimes energy can harm us. PPO Electricians and HVAC (air

conditioning) staff participate in **Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO) Authorized User training facilitated by Marge Charlock, of Master Lock Company**. This training reminds staff of the need to follow safety precautions to ensure that they are not harmed by unexpected release of energy (i.e., electrocution, lacerations and even death) while they are working on and around tools, machinery, and equipment, by placing special locks on all their main sources of energy.

Although these participants are experienced trade persons, they still reported that they learned something new and it was good to be reminded of the dangers and the need to follow safety procedures.

Want to know more? Sign up for EH&S's LOTO class in LAB.



4 - LOTO training being facilitated by Master Lock Company Instructor, Marge Charlock.



5 - PPO electricians and HVAC staff in LOTO Authorized User Training

PPO's Tiger Team

Physical Plant Operation has developed a new cohort of staff called the "**Tiger Team**". This group of 12-15 employees' main objective is to support PPO - District Maintenance in addressing work orders at school sites that are relegated to a status of low priority, which then will free up the tradesmen to address work orders that require their respective licensed expertise.

During the month of March, Tiger team staff spent 2 days in training with EH&S, being exposed to topics such as: **Ladder safety, Lead paint, Slip, Trip, and Fall hazards, Personal Protective Equipment, Hand Tool Safety, Asbestos Awareness and LOTO Awareness**, all in an effort to educate and inform their behaviors as they work through their daily task.



6 - Tiger Team members in safety training



7 - Instructor, Stephanie Alami gives Tiger Team "thumbs-up"

Leadership of Energy Conservation & Utility Management Changes Hands . . .



It's spring, the season of change, and EH&S is a reflection of the season.

In January 2022, Robert Jindracek, Manager, Environmental Conservation & Utility Management retired from SBBC after 35+ years with the District. We wished him the best of luck as he transitioned from his norm of 6:30 AM - 3:00 PM world of work, to one that is of his own design.

UPDATE: Happy to report- Retirement boating and the fish are biting.



8 - Rob Jindrcek prepares to read farewell speech!



9 - Rob with wife, dad and daughter pose at farewell celebration.

EH&S Welcomes New Manager



10 - Eloy Quesada, Manager, Environmental Conservation & Utility Management

Mr. Eloy Quesada comes to us from Physical Plant Operations (PPO). He was appointed Manager, Environmental Conservation/Utility Management on January 12, 2022.

Mr. Quesada has been with the district for 19+ years.

We welcome him to the Team!!

Water Conservation



“Water, Water, Everywhere, But Not a Drop to Drink...”

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, wrote those words (or similar) in his poem, "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner", to describe the predicament of his hero being stuck on a boat in the middle of the ocean but unable to quench his thirst. Symbolically, people around the world and in our own backyard find themselves with water around but it is often polluted and not safe to drink.

Experts state, **water stress**, a situation where there is not enough water of sufficient quality to meet the demands of people and the environment, is a global issue that is getting worse. Every individual and business needs to do their part to conserve water and keep our water sources clean.

The School Boards of Broward County takes an active role in addressing this issue and has adopted concrete measures to help conserve water across the District through **Environmental Conservation & Utility Management Department**.

The Rainbird IQ4 Controls are also equipped with flow sensors.

This department monitors our irrigation systems through a computer system called **Rainbird IQ4 Controls**. This software is designed to allow users to control their irrigation systems from any internet connected device. The **Rainbird IQ4 Controls** platform allows staff to remotely monitor, program and control our irrigation systems. Our technicians can adjust times and place schools on rain delays from their computers.

The **Rainbird IQ4 Controls** are also equipped with flow sensors. So, if the irrigation system has been programmed for on and off times but it has been raining the **Rainbird IQ4** will communicate if the system still needs to come on.

Currently, 47 **Rainbird IQ4 Controls** are being monitored and managed by Environmental Conservation & Utility Management.

IQ4 provides advanced water management features saving money and time to the district. This is a valuable tool in preventing water waste.

BE AN ENCOURAGER. THE WORLD HAS PLENTY OF CRITICS ALREADY.



The Women of EH&S

In looking for women to acknowledge for the month of March, I did not have to look too far. In a perfect world, I would have been able to gather all these women for a photo op; but alas, you will just have to take my word for it.

The **Environmental Health and Safety** department is made up of some very strong, intelligent, focused and determined women, who in turn are supported by other women. *We do have a few men, but this is about our women!*

Most of these women have emerged from fields that are traditionally held by men. We are from the world of science and mathematics: biologist, architects, energy conservationist, environmentalist, and ecologist. Collectively, we have worked in environments from classroom to zoos; construction sites to underwater water & sewer pipes, and underground fuel storage tanks. We are governed by OSHA, EPA, . We can operate Genie Lifts (MEWPs) and forklifts, but I would caution you, we may be a little rusty in this area.

Never-the-less, EH&S, lead by Alison Witoshynsky, as the Task-Assigned Director, is quietly leaving its mark, as we re-establish **SAFETY as a value that guides attitudes and behaviors District-wide**. The vision for EH&S is supported by:

Coordinators: Bailley McDonald, Health & Safety & Teresa Thomas, Environmental Compliance

Project Manager: Carol Gagnon, Occupational Health/Environmental Controls (The Owl Lady)

Safety Specialists: Stephanie Alami, Sandra Kanner, Yvette Mcleod, Lisa Meday

Training Specialist: Hyacinthe Lafontant

Energy Analysts: Gianet Puma, Deb Debrocq

Accounts Payable Specialists & Bookkeeper : Becky Ingram, Amanda Leiro, Shelly Rose, Gail Hughes

And **Secretaries:** Lavaeda Bell, Carol Cascio, (Dept Sec.), Kaleigh Sweatt, Susan Nance

This acknowledgement to EH&S women, in no way negates/minimizes the contributions of the men in this department.

However, it is interesting to note that of the eleven (11) men, seven (7) are from the trades!

Look out trade apprenticeship program, looks like you need to make some space for us women!

Lights, Lights, Lights



Energy Conservation & Utility Management Complete another LED Conversion

North Lauderdale Pre-K-8 Media Center Lighting Upgrade project is now complete and has passed final inspection. These new LED lights in the media center are dimmable and have two (2) zone switches. Big thanks are being extended to AGC Electric's team for their dedication in getting the project completed on time.

See pictures below for the impact this lighting change makes.

North Lauderdale PK-8, Media lights LED upgrade



Before



Before



After 3/23/2022



Dimmable switches

11 - Bottom row: New LEDs,

(picture right) Individual Zone Switches

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month



<https://sway.office.com/jXz41aBDA2tgJDiV#content=OUTDJsVvYvdmB>



<https://sway.office.com/jXz41aBDA2tgJDiV#content=H7fxflzFIBM4XE>

During Distracted Driving Awareness Month this April, FLHSMV will be reminding motorists to PUT IT DOWN. Any distraction – such as your phone – can wait.

Focus on driving!

Contact Us



Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)

Address: 4200 A NW 10th Ave.

Oakland Park, Florida 33311

Phone: 754-321-4200

Website: <https://www.browardschools.com/Domain/13473>

EMAIL: EHS-Help@browardschools.com - all items related to IAQ and other safety concerns

emshelpdesk@browardschools.com - all energy and recycling issues