OSHA in Schools

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Today’s Topics

Introduction- Safety
MN OSHA Compliance – Who’s Inspected
What happens when OSHA arrives
Common violations found in schools

HS FACS teacher suffers burns
Pressure cooker leaked scalding water causing severe burns and sending teacher to the burn unit

School Principal killed in accident
Principal was removing a light from the gym ceiling using a ladder on a mobile scaffold. He did not use the outriggers or lock the wheels. Unit tipped over and he fell 15'

Maintenance worker seriously injured
From 30' fall from scaffold in gym; permanent short term memory loss

Food service employee locked in freezer

Student suffers serious burns in welding class
Student finger amputation
A HS Senior has his pinkie finger amputated in a IA shop grinder

Food service employee locked in freezer

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Why do we take risks?

- It will never happen to me
- It will only take a minute
- I have done this 100 times before
- Everyone else does it
- I'm the only one who uses this
- This is how I was shown

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance

Who Gets Inspected?
MNOSHA Compliance

• Conducts more than 2,500 enforcement inspections each year.
• Gives priority to an inspection if:
  • someone sees or reports an imminent danger;
  • an employee has died at work;
  • an employee has complained to MNOSHA about a safety or health hazard; or
  • the company is in an industry with high injury, illness and workers’ compensation rates.

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Death or Serious Accident

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Injury</th>
<th>Reporting Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatality</td>
<td>Within 8 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitalization (Admitted)</td>
<td>Within 24 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amputation</td>
<td>Within 24 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of Eye</td>
<td>Within 24 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Programmed Inspection

• Programmed inspections or planned OSHA inspections follow a ‘surprise lottery’ site selection process. They are aimed at specific high-hazard industries, workplaces, occupations, safety / health hazards.

• Schools are included in this lottery
Complaints

• Employees have the legal right to file a workplace safety violation complaint against their employer with OSHA without fear of retaliation.

• In many industries, employee complaints are the single most common reason why OSHA will conduct an inspection at a workplace.

• It is also the easiest way to prevent OSHA inspection – take complaints seriously.

Types of Penalties

• There are 5 types of violations: non-serious, serious, willful, repeat, and failure to abate.
  - Maximum penalties: non-serious and serious $7000, willful and repeat $70,000 and failure to abate $7000 per day that the violation remains.
  - Credits: as much as 95 percent, depending on the employer’s good faith (up to 30%), size of business (up to 55%), and previous violation history (up to 10%).

When OSHA knocks...

• Unannounced
• Presents credentials and asks to meet and employer rep.
• Opening conference
• Review of posting & recordkeeping requirements
• Walkaround
  - Employee interviews
  - Training records/Safety records
• Closing conference
WalkAround

Employee Interviews
• May interview employees of
  • various union groups
  • job categories
  • shifts
  • high injury areas
  • high hazard areas

Personal Protective Equipment
• Evaluation specific to work area/employee exposure
• Readily available
• Correct PPE for application
• Provided for free of charge
• Good condition
• Train employees on use/application/storage
General

- Housekeeping
- Aisle space/exit unobstructed
- Electrical
- Appliances
- Furniture

- Furniture
- Chemical labeling/storage
- Shelving
- Walking/working surfaces
Electrical

- Ensure no exposed wires or live electrical
- Two prong extension cords should not be used
- Extension cords used on “temporary” basis only
- Cheaters are not allowed
- Replace/Report damaged equipment
- Power strips plugged directly into a wall outlet and not another strip or extension cord
Chemical

• Labeling (GHS)
• Chemical Inventory
• Secondary use containers
• Safety Data Sheets
• Training
• Personal Protective Equipment identified for chemical use
Science Lab

- Updated chemical inventory/SDS
- Proper chemical labeling and storage
- Locked chemical store rooms
- Master gas shutoffs labeled/locked

- Fume hoods operating/tested
- Proper PPE available/used
- Eyewash station/shower
- Emergency equipment unobstructed
Industrial Arts

- Equipment guards available/used
- Equipment locked/tagged out during repair
- PPE used/stored properly
- Proper storage of chemicals; disposal of wastes
- SDSs available/accessile
- Hand/power tools inspected and in good condition
- Compressed gases properly stored/used
- Hoist/jack inspections
What can you do?

• The best ways to achieve compliance, reduce the risk of an OSHA inspection or violations are
  • Set the tone. Safety matters.
  • Implement safety programs/policies
  • Conduct workplace health and safety audits
  • Provide specific employee safety training
Questions?