

## **PETROCHEMICAL-BASED PRODUCT USE**

It shall be the policy of the Great Neck Public Schools to exclude, wherever possible, the use of any petrochemical-based product in any school facility. A petrochemical is defined as a product being manufactured and derived from crude oil or natural gas.

1. This policy applies to art supplies, cleaning supplies, biology and chemical laboratory products, paints, etc.
2. Whenever possible, the district will purchase bio-based alternatives and products containing minimal Volatile Organic Compounds. A bio-based alternative is defined as a renewable source that contains extracts and oils derived from fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds, vegetable crops, and plant matter which meet or exceed the performance of their petrochemical equivalents.
3. Whenever possible, any product purchased and used in the District must be third-party documented and certified for its environmental efficacy and its impact on indoor air quality and overall indoor environment, especially as it may affect children. Third-party documentation and certification must come from a nationally acknowledged environmental testing laboratory. \*
4. In the event that no third-party documentation or certification exists for any classification of product, the District Safety Officer shall approve, in writing, all exceptions prior to their use. Should third-party documentation become available for any product, that product shall receive preferential consideration.

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\* For example:

GREEN SEAL (US) [www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org) Environmental Standard for Industrial and Institutional Cleaners (GS-37)

ENVIRONMENTAL CHOICE (Canada) [www.environmentalchoice.com](http://www.environmentalchoice.com) Cleaning Products with Low Potential for Environmental Illness and Endocrine Disruption (Criteria PRC-097)

SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS (US) [www.scs1.com](http://www.scs1.com) a third-party certifier of environmental and food safety achievements.

*Great Neck Public Schools*

*Adopted: 03/01/04*