## **Putnam County Schools**

## Global Harmonization System (GHS) – November 2013

"Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals" ("GHS") has been added and has modified the Hazard Communication Guidelines. The following are the changes to the program.

Product Identifier: The product name or an identifying number that cross-references to the corresponding Safety Data Sheet (SDS), as to the list of hazardous chemicals that we maintain as part of our formal Haz-Com program

Signal Words: Indicates the level of severity of a hazard. Two signal words will be "Danger" and "Warning";

"Danger" is the signal word for more severe hazards, "Warning" for the less severe ones;

Note: Words such as "caution" or "beware" will no longer be allowed or used

Hazard Statements: Relatively short statement assigned to a specific hazard class and category that describes the nature of the hazard(s) of a chemical, including, where appropriate, the degree of hazard.

Example: "Highly flammable liquid and vapor", or "May cause liver damage."

Precautionary Statements: Phrases that list recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure to a hazardous chemical or improper storage or handling.

Example: Precautionary statement would be "Keep away from heat, flames, sparks. No Smoking."

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS's): Replaced by "Safety Data Sheets" (SDS's);

**Note:** SDS's are divided into 16 sections covering information about the product's chemical hazards. This will be a standard format for all SDS's and used by chemical manufacturers.

Container Labels: Must display mandatory information, product identifier and must be exactly the same as appearing on the Safety Data Sheet (SDS);

Container labels must also have the standardized signal words, hazard statements and precautionary statements to insure you are aware of the dangers and safeguards to follow when using the product;

Container labels must also display one or more of eight specific "pictograms", icons to quickly identify the specific hazard / hazards with the product being used.

Name, Address, and Telephone Number of the chemical manufacturer, importer, or other responsible party.

Manufacturers and importers of hazardous products have until June 1, 2015 to make the full transition to the new labeling requirements.

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Pictograms: Icons will appear in a small red box the new guidelines have eight pictograms and one or more could appear on a label; each helps quickly identify the specific type of hazard of the product.

