**International Charter School of Trenton**

**Integrated Pest Management**

The New Jersey School Integrated Pest Management Act of 2002 requires schools to implement a school integrated pest management policy.  The law requires the lead administrator and the board of trustees to implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures to control pests and minimize exposure of children, faculty, and staff to pesticides. International Charter School of Trenton developed and maintains an IPM plan as part of the school’s policy.

**Integrated pest management procedures**

Implementation of IPM procedures determine when to control pests and whether to use mechanical, physical, cultural, biological or chemical methods.  Applying IPM principles prevents unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.

The school shall consider the full range of management options, including no action at all. Non-pesticide pest management methods are to be used whenever possible.  The choice of using a pesticide shall be based on a review of all other available options and a determination that these options are not effective or not reasonable. When it is determined that a pesticide must be used, low impact pesticides and methods are preferred and shall be considered for use first.

**IPM plans**

The school IPM plan is a blueprint of how ICST will manage pests through IPM methods.  The school’s IPM plan states the school’s goals regarding the management of pests and the use of pesticides.  It reflects the school’s site-specific needs. The IPM plan provides a description of how each component of the school IPM policy will be implemented at the school.  The development of the IPM plan is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees and the Lead Administrator.