

CONFINED SPACE POLICY

In a continuing effort to protect the health and safety of our students and employees as well as others who work at our schools, the following policy is instituted regarding confined spaces.

Confined spaces are defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

“Confined space,” means a space that:

- (1) Is large enough and so configured that an employee can bodily enter and perform assigned work; and
- (2) Has limited or restricted means for entry or exit (for example: tanks, vessels, silos, storage bins, hoppers, vaults, and pits are spaces that may have limited entry); and
- (3) Is not designed for continuous employee occupancy.

Note that all three conditions must be met for a space to be considered a “confined space.”

The Bristol Virginia School Division’s Office of Facilities and Transportation will place signs in facilities that indicate a space as being a “confined space.”

No Bristol Virginia School Division employee will require or allow contractors, subcontractors, visitors, students or any other personnel to enter such spaces. Any employee who notices anyone in any of these spaces must report it immediately to the principal. No one shall enter such spaces as defined as a “confined space” unless there is a definite need to do so. Moreover, only those persons who have had “confined space” training will be allowed to do so. If someone perceives a need to enter one of these spaces, he or she should contact the principal who will investigate the reason for potential entry. It is possible to enter these spaces provided certain precautions are taken and regulatory requirements are met.

Adopted by: The Bristol Virginia School Board on July 1, 2002