## Tools for Schools (TFS)/Indoor Air Quality Updates (IAQ) 2010-2011 School year By JoAnn Duncan

## May 2011

Did you know...that upholstered furniture and accessories from someone's home or tag sale (such as pillows, couches, chairs and curtains) and, going forward, area rugs and carpet squares (even new) are not permitted in the Westport Public Schools? Furniture and accessories, including fabric-upholstered furniture bought new and delivered from the store are permitted. Leather, vinyl, wooden or plastic furniture and accessories are generally acceptable and preferable because they can be wiped clean and are easier to vacuum. New or used area rugs or carpet squares of any kind (from home or a store) will no longer be permitted in our schools effective July 1, 2011; because they harbor spilled food and beverages and cannot be vacuumed regularly or cleaned annually like the district provided area rugs. These guidelines were adopted because these items collect dust, harbor dust mites and animal dander, may have mold growing on or in them and cannot be properly cleaned. See the *TFS/IAQ Procedures* (May 12, 2011, page 6) posted on the district website <a href="https://www.westport.k12.ct.us">www.westport.k12.ct.us</a> or in the TFS binder at your school.