

January 2019

Did You Know that in August 2018 Westport Public Schools revised the cleaning products given to teachers for use in their classrooms?

By JoAnn Inserra Duncan.

Revisions to the products given to teachers and staff:

- 1. Only cleaning products supplied by the WPS Facilities Department** are used for cleaning by staff, and they are used uniformly across the district. Products used in WPS are chosen based on current information that establishes them to be safe and, to the extent possible, Green. Currently, staff may use Stetson **PC-120 Peroxide Multi Surface Cleaner** in labeled spray bottles provided by our Facilities Department to clean surfaces in the classroom, cafeteria, offices and other common areas. General cleaning, for example, desk-tops and counter tops, should be performed with the PC -120 cleaner and disposable towels. These “Green products are effective; they are also as odorless and colorless as possible for indoor air quality (IAQ) reasons. In certain locations and situations requiring a higher concentration of disinfectant, such as bathrooms, health offices, locker rooms, and certain biology labs, the **PC-103 is used by the custodial staff. This product is not given to teachers or staff.**

The PC-120 product is distributed in a smaller bottle and replaced every 2 weeks so that the peroxide does not begin to degrade the plastic and cause a foul odor. There are labels on the bottles showing the replacement date. If there is an odor, the staff member should ask the custodian for new PC-120 product.

- 2. Teachers and staff are given Clorox Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant** spray. This product is to be used to sanitize/disinfect high touch points in their classrooms such as doorknobs, faucets, etc. This hydrogen peroxide based spray is considered to be a safer sanitizing/disinfecting product. Also, if a student sneezes or coughs on a surface, the staff member will have the option to use this product on the surface. This product is **NOT** to be used for regular, general cleaning of surfaces (desks, counter tops, book shelves, etc.).
- 3. Microfiber Cloth (rags)** are no longer used. Teachers and staff members are given green colored disposable towels for cleaning purposes. These disposable towels can also be used to clean the white boards.
- 4. Teachers can use the district approved PDI Sanicloth HB Wipes** for cleaning the computer keyboards and mice in their classroom.

As stated in Public Act 09-81, **no parent, guardian, teacher or staff member may bring into a school facility any consumer product which is intended to clean, deodorize, sanitize or disinfect.** This prohibition is a matter of the law. A copy of Public Act 09-81 and the Westport Public Schools full Standard Cleaning Procedures (revised in August 2018) are available on the district website at: <http://www.westportps.org> - scroll down and click on "Tools for Schools