

SAFETY ALERT

No. 02-03A SHARP/DANGEROUS OBJECTS IN SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS June 2002

Periodically, sharp objects are found in playgrounds. Police reports often indicate these objects are intentionally placed in play areas for the purpose of harming children. The objects can include broken glass, razor blades, nails and other sharp objects.

To ensure the safety of students and staff on playgrounds, the following precautions should be taken:

1. The responsible staff member should thoroughly inspect all play areas before use.
2. Sand boxes should be covered at all times when not in use. If the cover of the sand box is disturbed, a thorough inspection of the sand box should be conducted.
3. If a dangerous object is located, the area should be secured against use, and School Police should be immediately notified.
4. Adequate supervision is required whenever playgrounds are in use.

If you have questions regarding these precautions, please contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (213) 743-5086.