

## **HEARING CONSERVATION**

Beautiful Plains School Division in adherence with Manitoba Regulation 227/94, the Hearing Conservation and Noise Control Regulation will make hearing protection available to those staff who are exposed to an equivalent sound exposure level greater than 85 dBA. The Division will conduct a hearing surveillance program for those employees who work in areas where the equivalent sound exposure level is greater than 80 dBA. The Division will provide information on the importance of using hearing protection on an annual basis for those employees working in areas where the equivalent sound exposure levels exceed 80 dBA.

The Division will pay for annual audiometric testing on all its employees who work in a high noise environment as defined in Hearing Conservation and Noise Control Regulation 227/94. The Division will provide an annual report to the Divisional Workplace Safety and Health Committee outlining:

- the number of staff tested
- the areas in which staff are being tested
- hearing concerns arising out of the testing
- the hearing conservation protections in place
- the information provided to affected employees

Employees working in a high noise environment within the Division include:

- industrial arts teachers
- band / music instructors
- phys-ed staff
- other staff when need is identified through sound monitoring of the workplace

Staff hired to work in high noise areas within the Division will have a hearing test conducted at the start of their employment.

The Division will retain the records of those tested and their results for thirty years.

Approved September 2, 2003