

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

August 10, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Monifa B. McKnight, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Menstrual Supplies (06-28-2022-03-C)

During the *Public Comments*, Board members requested the following information:

Question A

Ms. Wolff requested information regarding the availability of menstrual products at Wootton High School as highlighted in Gretchen Gilmore’s testimony.

Response A

The Department of Materials Management warehouse supplies menstrual products to schools. Typically, the designated financial agent or building service manager for the school manages the purchase of tampons and/or pads through the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Business Hub. The orders are processed in the warehouse and shipped to schools for distribution to and use by students. Please refer to the table for information on products used in schools.

Item Number	Description	Usage
0611500	Sanitary Napkins, 250/Carton, Hospico	Product the warehouse has carried for years
0611505	EGP200 Enviro Gards® Organic Maxi #4 box 200/cs	New pads to fit the new dispensers
0611510	51682 Tampax Tampons T-500 Case item # 70384	New Tampons to fit the new dispensers

Question B

Mrs. Smondrowski requested information regarding the availability of menstrual products in non-gender specific bathrooms, health rooms, clinics, and counselor offices as well.

Response B

While the warehouse does supply menstrual products, there is no predetermined location or restriction as to location of the items within the schools. For the new dispensers, the Division of Maintenance and Operations has created a list of identified locations. Schools are required to order menstrual supplies for the dispensers but also may order additional supplies for specific rooms or locations of their choice.

Additionally, Maryland Senate Bill 427/House Bill 205, *Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products – Requirement*, passed May 30, 2021, requires the following actions:

- Each County Board of Education is required to ensure that each public school provide, at no charge to students, menstrual hygiene products via dispensers in the women's restrooms at the school.
- As of October 1, 2022, all public middle and high schools must have the menstrual hygiene product dispensers installed in at least two women's restrooms, and installed in all women's restrooms by August 1, 2025.
- Public elementary schools must have the menstrual hygiene product dispensers installed in at least one restroom by October 1, 2022.
- The state will pay for the cost of purchasing and installing the required dispensers, based on requests for reimbursements submitted by the County Board of Education.

Staff in the Division of Maintenance and Operations has worked with the Division of Procurement to identify a vendor to install the dispensers in schools, with the work beginning in August 2022. The Department of Materials Management has purchased the tampons and pads that are compatible with the new dispensers. The product will be available for schools to purchase beginning July 30, 2022. The dispenser installation project will be completed by September 29, 2022. Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, building service managers will order menstrual products for the newly installed dispensers via the MCPS Business Hub using their custodial supplies account.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rachel C. Dubois, director of materials management, via email.

MBM:DEE:RCD:asr

Copy to:

Executive Staff

Mrs. Dubois

Ms. Webb