

Carbon Monoxide Detection Now Required in all School District Buildings

On June 27, 2015, an emergency rule became effective requiring the installation of carbon monoxide detection in all new and existing commercial buildings, which includes all school facilities. Per the NYSED Facilities Planning Newsletter, the rule will apply to all occupied buildings in a school district or BOCES that contain equipment or systems that emit products of combustion. The areas of detection include, but are not limited to, school buildings, administrative buildings, bus maintenance facilities, concession stands, and field houses. The rule defines detection zones, and specifically states that every classroom is considered to be a carbon monoxide detection zone and will require monitoring when certain triggering conditions exist.

The transition period for existing commercial buildings to become compliant is June 27, 2015 to June 27, 2016. Districts are encouraged to install carbon monoxide detection as quickly as possible. During this period if a district is not in compliance with the rule, they can provide NYSED with a written plan on how they intend to install carbon monoxide detection systems by the June 27, 2016 deadline. There are a number of options available for school districts to comply with the regulations including detectors, complete systems and interconnection with fire alarm systems.

NYSED has stated that doing nothing to comply with these rules during the transition period is not an option. BCK-IBI Group can assist you with this new requirement and compliance path decisions. Contact **Steve Thesier** or **Bill Monahan** for additional information.

Reference documents:

[July 2015 NYSED Facilities Planning Newsletter](#)

[NYSED Technical Guidelines](#)

Project Highlight: Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School "No Brick Allowed"

Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School, located in Pasadena, Texas, was designed by IBI Group Learning+. IBI Learning+ is our global education practice that focuses specifically on the learner, engages within the community and continues to drive design innovation. The new Career Technical High School's design mission is to enhance student learning, while engaging the i-Generation. The facility is designed around six academies: Agriculture, Business, Construction, Health, Technology and Transportation.



The i-Generation of today thrives in collaborative spaces, where students and staff have the ability for small group interaction and informal meetings outside of the traditional classroom environment. These collaboration spaces are accessible throughout the 274,000 sq. ft. facility. Energy efficiency was a high priority; therefore, the facility was designed with sustainability in mind. The 27.5-acre site utilized concepts such as day lighting, recycling, low VOC products, and renewable solar / wind energy.



As a school of choice, students are given the opportunity to graduate with a specialized certification in a trade, or with an associate's degree. Calvin Powitzky, Senior Principal, IBI Group Houston said, *"The superintendent told me that he didn't want this facility to look like a school; no brick was allowed."*

To learn more about the Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School, view the story on our [IBI Learning+ Youtube Channel](#).

BCK-IBI Group adds Civil Engineering to Our Service Offerings



RONALD YATES

BCK-IBI Group proudly welcomes **Ronald Yates, PE, LEED AP, CAPD** to our firm as a civil engineer.

Ron has more than 15 years of experience with civil engineering and site development including: site design, utility layout and design, grading and erosion control and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP). He can help clients navigate the site permitting process with government agencies such as New York State DEC, DOT and DOH. He is also a certified asbestos project designer. We are excited to have Ron on our team to offer these expanded services to our clients.



DAVID BUSHNELL

We also welcome **David Bushnell** to our engineering team.

David has more than 32 years of experience in mechanical engineering. David has a strong background conducting facility assessments, so you may see him out and about at your schools conducting building condition surveys.

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