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To improve air quality and cut down on absenteeism

School names Guardian Service Inds. to provide environmentally preferred janitorial services

HARRINGTON PARK, NJ — In a move likely to make more than a few New Jersey parents and educators “green” with envy, the Harrington Park Public School in Bergen County has broken tradition and hired the region’s most environmentally advanced janitorial services company to clean its facilities.

The firm, Manhattan, NY-based Guardian Service Industries, one of the leaders in the building maintenance field for nearly a century, recently transformed itself into the first totally “green” cleaning company operating in the greater New York marketplace. Guardian has begun ‘green-cleaning’ the two-building Harrington Park elementary school, which has over 700 students attending kindergarten through eighth grades.

For Guardian, whose clients include high-rise office buildings, banks, theatres, shopping centers, department stores and medical facilities, the contract with Harrington Park Public School represents its first academic client.

Among the benefits of environmentally preferred building cleaning services are improved indoor air quality, lower water and air pollution levels, and an overall healthier, more productive work environment. Guardian’s



*Harrington Park Public School
in Bergen County*

conversion to “green” involved extensive testing to determine the best performing non-toxic products currently available in the marketplace, retraining its staff, introducing new equipment, and implementing safe packaging and shipping of green-sealed certified

products.

“We are delighted to have the opportunity to green-clean our first public school and know that students and teachers alike will benefit from a process that is much healthier, safer and more effective than conventional cleaning methods,” said Guardian Service vice president Michael Eisenberg, whose company cleans and maintains over 50 million s/f of building space throughout the Greater New York metropolitan area.

“Sick building syndrome, which is most commonly associated with office buildings,

and is linked, in part, to toxic cleaning products, can have the same damaging effect on schools,” said Eisenberg. “We’re confident that more and more schools will turn to ‘green cleaning’ in the future. Not only is it the healthier choice and the socially responsible thing to do, but studies prove cleaner air helps reduce absenteeism and improves productivity.”

According to Dr. Adam Fried, Harrington Park Public School superintendent, “Our students are our most important commodity, and of course, their welfare is foremost in our

minds. We’re delighted that Guardian is on board, using non-toxic products, which will ensure a much healthier environment for our students and faculty.”

In addition to its safety and health benefits, sustainable cleaning practices also preserve the longevity of flooring, carpets and furnishings.

Guardian, which also provides security and related maintenance services to major landlords and corporations, was founded in 1918 as a window cleaning operation. Today, it has over 6,000 clients in the tri-state area. ■