

## Electrical Safety in Minnesota Schools

In many school districts throughout the state, school district employees install or maintain and repair electrical wiring on school district premises. Minnesota Statutes Section 326B.33 permits employees to perform electrical work or electrical maintenance work but requires that such work be done by or under the supervision of employees properly licensed by the Department. In general, this requires the school district to be properly registered as an Electrical Employer and all individuals who perform this work be licensed or registered with the Department as unlicensed.

Every new electrical installation in any construction, remodeling, replacement, or repair is also required to be inspected for compliance with the minimum safety standards of the National Electrical Code. Inspections are performed either by the Department or by the municipality that does their own electrical inspections as permitted by Minnesota Statute 326B.36.

It has been the department's experience that much of the electrical work done by unlicensed unsupervised employees is not in compliance with the safety standards and may be hazardous.

We believe that you, as a school administrator, are concerned with the safety of the persons and property entrusted to you and request your help in ensuring electrical safety.

Please contact us to find out how to become a registered employer\* and be certain you permit only properly licensed or registered employees to perform electrical work or electrical maintenance work on district property.

\*As an alternative to becoming a registered employer a school district is encouraged to secure the services of a properly licensed electrical contractor to perform all electrical installations and electrical maintenance work.