



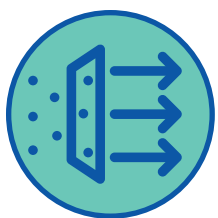
HEALTHIER WORKPLACES



BE PART OF THE SOLUTION Keeping Schools Healthy

Students, teachers and staff spend approximately one third of their day at school, 90% of it indoors. Building systems can directly impact the air of the indoor environment. In turn, the occupants are exposed to air that can have a direct impact on their health. Failure to improve poor indoor air quality may increase long- and short-term health effects for students and staff.

This checklist is for school facility managers who are dedicated to healthy and safe indoor air quality.



Create a detailed inventory of your school's mechanical systems: It's important to recognize that each school is its own separate unit. The controls used at one facility cannot be directly standardized to other schools. The specific mechanical systems will determine how to best implement controls in the individual school.



Identify an appropriate balance of efficiency across all the school's mechanical systems: The balance will depend on several factors, including: the type of facility, the age of the systems, and the density of occupants (e.g., students) inside the building.



Efficiently introduce outdoor air when feasible: Depending on the climate and outdoor humidity, it may not be feasible to introduce outdoor air into the building and classrooms and expect the system to function in an energy-efficient manner or function as it was designed and intended. The system should be evaluated, and system performance should be verified after outdoor air introduction to ensure proper system function and acceptable indoor climate conditions.



Improve system filtration to increase air exchange equivalents: This upgrade may require the system to work at a higher level than it did before the pandemic and can result in more effective air filtrations and exchanges.



Schedule regular system evaluations: Identifying an issue before it becomes a problem. Each facility needs a preliminary, individualized facility evaluation to identify the most appropriate control.



Schedule an IAQ building assessment with a third party OEHS consultant: Having facility health risk assessments performed to address identified issues before they result in human health impacts will be a long-term return on investment and a beneficial one when the health of the occupants is ultimately improved by healthy facility systems.



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For more information, see:
HealthierWorkplaces.org, Commit2CARE.org, and consultantslisting.org