

HOW TO IMPROVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

1

Ventilate with outdoor Air

- Adjust system dampers to provide as much fresh air while keeping proper temperature and humidity
- Open windows when appropriate - watch out for 'short circuiting" the HVAC system

2

Increase **Filter Efficiency**

- Perform an Air Quality Assessment in all school buildings
- Upgrade system filters to highest MERV level available for system (MERV14 preferred) and ensure routine maintenance

3

Supplement with **Portable Air Cleaners**

- Operate and maintain portable air cleaners in areas with low ventilation



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Air quality is an important factor in keeping students and teachers healthy and supporting academic performance.

- 90% of school buildings in the U.S. are underventilated
- Bad air flow harms student health and performance.
- Indoor levels of air pollutants can be two to five times higher than outdoor levels.
- 20% of the U.S. Population spends their days inside K-12 buildings. However, only 47.7% of school districts had an indoor air quality management program in 2012

To reduce risk of negative health impacts from poor air quality, all school district facility managers should routinely assess each buildings air quality by examining HVAC system performance,

Air Quality Support Resources

- Air Quality Assessment Support from
- Commercial Energy Waste Reduction programs with your local utility



If your district needs air quality improvement support, please visit www.Michigan.gov/Energy

Or call David Herb
(517) 512-3325