

Indoor Air Quality Program Management

How big a problem is poor Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) in schools? According to the EPA, Indoor levels of air pollutants can be two to five times higher, and occasionally 100 times higher, than outdoor levels. Nearly 56 million people, approximately 20 percent of the U.S. population, spend their days inside elementary and secondary schools.

IAQ problems can cause discomfort and contribute to short- and long-term health problems for students and staff. Several factors in schools can contribute to poor IAQ. Some of the most common problems that contribute to poor IAQ include: *Radon, classroom pets, excess moisture and mold, dry-erase markers and similar pens, dust and chalk, cleaning materials, personal care products, odors and volatile organic compounds from paint, caulk, and adhesives, insects and other pests, odors from trash, etc...*

EPA offers guidance to address these common problems and many others and to help building managers establish preventive maintenance practices to reduce the frequency with which these problems occur. The Environmental Compliance Coordinator approaches Indoor Air Quality concerns on a preventive maintenance program that focuses on root cause analysis to help ensure returns on investments are those that address problems at the source.

Some goals of the St Vrain Valley Schools IAQ program are:

- Give occupants knowledge of common IAQ risks and the power to act to protect their indoor environments.
- To provide occupants mechanisms for feedback on their comfort with IAQ , assure ease in reporting of reporting IAQ concerns and perceived effectiveness of response to reports and satisfaction with the overall indoor environment.
- Convey that facility health is a joint responsibility and that it takes a team of proactive occupants, staff and managers to prevent problems and deliver outstanding learning environments.

Occupant Concern forms and **Occupant Diary Forms** can be found as attached files under this program description. To report an Indoor Air Quality Concern, simply complete one of the forms and forward to your direct supervisor and the Environmental Compliance Coordinator. Once the form is received and reviewed, a site visit will be performed to evaluate the environment or condition of concern. St Vrain Valley School District is committed to practicing sound Indoor Air Quality management practices and to observance and adherence to all Local, State, and Federal rules and regulations.

Indoor Air Quality Concern/Question/Information

Environmental Compliance Coordinator

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Longmont, CO 80501

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or

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