



Air Quality Response Plan

March 20, 2024

Honey Creek Mitigation Strategies

To address the health impacts of poor air quality, the Honey Creek Board of Trustees has defined a set of layered strategies to be implemented if/when air quality deteriorates. These strategies will be used when necessary to help ensure the safety of our students, staff and families. Prior to their implementation, we will communicate rising risks factors in the hope we can collectively prepare for restrictions.

Honey Creek Poor Air Quality Mitigation Strategies		
Air Quality* Level of Concern	Index	Strategies & Program Alterations
Good	0 to 50	• Monitor Air Quality on Daily Basis
		• No Restrictions
Moderate	51 to 100	• Assist sensitive individuals to medically manage their condition
Unhealthy for Sensitive Individuals	101 to 150	• Offer alternate indoor activities for sensitive individuals during PE, lunch, After-Care, etc.
Unhealthy	151 to 200	• Outdoor activities limited to non-vigorous and under 15 minutes
		• Recess, P.E. and After-School activities held indoors with less vigorous activities
Very Unhealthy	201 to 300	• No outdoor activities during or after school
		• Indoor activities limited to non-vigorous
		• Cancel extra-curricular activities, events, etc.
Hazardous	301+	• Cancel After-Care, extra-curricular activities, concerts, etc.
		• Potential School Closure

*EPA's AQI & AIRNow Program, visit <http://www.airnow.gov>.

Determining Concern Levels

The air quality index determines the air quality level of concern. Readings are published on the Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow website (<https://www.enviroflash.info/>). This data is also the basis of the Washtenaw County Health Department's air quality warnings. The administration may also consider the readings of the Honey Creek weather station [air quality sensor](#) should they differ widely from other area stations given our campus's relative height.

Communication About Concern Levels

If and when air quality deteriorates from the moderate level of concern, we will communicate the change via email to enrolled subscribers. The concern level will also be published on our website air quality webpage [here](#).

Members of our staff will receive ongoing administrative guidance about changes in the air quality concern level throughout each school day and amend activities if necessary.

Sensitive Individuals

Individuals with asthma, heart conditions or other health conditions impacted by air quality should have medically appropriate resources available at school to manage their condition when necessary. If your child requires assistance managing their condition, please contact us [here](#) immediately.

Weather Station Honey Creek

In anticipation of potential Eastern North American wildfires this spring and beyond, Honey Creek has installed a rooftop weather station equipped with meteorologic and air quality instrumentation. Due to our campus's height – the "High Point" of Washtenaw County – our air quality is often measurably different than the rest of the surrounding area. Having our own weather station, which can be monitored online as part of the national network, will provide greater effectiveness in our air quality response measures.

Information on Our Ventilation System

Thankfully, our new building has an entirely new heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system. Due to the coronavirus, the ISD has upgraded the systems replaceable filters (Merv 8 from 13) and installed bi-polar ionization into every roof top unit. Bi-polar ionization reduces the risk of exposure to viruses, bacteria, smoke, odors, and more by allowing the air filters to improve capture rate of smaller particles than traditional HVAC systems. The units installed at Honey Creek can be seen [here](#). A video of their benefits – produced by the corporation that sells them - can be found [here](#). Subsequent to moving into the building, we have also equipped each of our classrooms, offices and shared spaces with additional air purifiers.

Questions?

If you have air quality policy questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact our director, Kevin Kelly, at any time. He can be reached most easily at kkelly@honeycreekschool.org. It is our goal to establish predictable, science-based and transparent approaches and your feedback is important to each.