

## FACILITIES DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TO COVID19 PANDEMIC

Our district facilities department has two goals in response to the COVID19 pandemic.

**Goal #1** – To provide clean, safe buildings for our students and staff to return to. We have accomplished this goal by deep cleaning our buildings.

**Goal #2** - In the case of a reported presumed positive person (person showing symptoms of COVID19) in one of our buildings, the goal is to minimize the spread of the virus to others. There are three parts to our response: 1) provide PPE to staff and students (PPE detail is provided on next page), 2) disinfect surfaces where the presumed positive person travelled, and 3) operate our ventilation and air purification systems in a way which minimizes the spread of the virus to others.

There are 2 things to consider in the operation of our district ventilation systems in response to a presumed positive COVID19 person: fresh air and return (recirculated) air.

**Fresh air** - Design code for ventilation is 20 cfm of fresh air (outside air) per person in a space to promote a healthy building. We can confirm that we are bringing in a range 300 - 400 cfm of fresh air into our classrooms at our current outside air damper settings.

**Recirculated or return air** - There are two ways in which air is recirculated in our buildings.

- **System 1** - Air is recirculated through a single return air duct through a filter and then supplied back into the space mixed with fresh air. In this type of system, recirculated air in a classroom does not enter the return air ducts of other classrooms. The spread is minimized because of the design of the HVAC unit. You will typically see these types of units on the outside walls of classrooms throughout our district.
- **System 2** - Air is supplied from a large roof top unit to a pod of 4 to 8 classrooms. In this type of system, the return air ducts merge into one large air duct. The return air travels through a filter and then the air is supplied back into the space. Because the recirculated air of this pod of classrooms is mixed with the air in the smaller ducts at the point where they come together into one large duct, we (Facilities) are adding a step in our response to minimize spread of the virus. As part of our response to a presumed positive case, we will bring in HEPA air purifiers to these classrooms in order to purify the air before it enters the return ducts. In some appropriate settings, we are adding additional air purification equipment such as Sterionizers, which use bi-polar ion

technology. This technology will kill viruses and bacteria - not only COVID but the flu as well.

### **PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)**

To minimize the spread of the virus, the Facilities Department engages in cleaning & disinfecting our schools & buildings on a daily and consistent basis. High touch areas are disinfected frequently throughout the day. Facilities has and will continue to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) and other materials to assist in keeping our students, staff, and visitors safe.

#### **PPE & Material Provided**

- Hand Sanitizer
  - Main Entrance & common areas
  - Classrooms & offices
- Disinfectant wipes
  - Classrooms & offices
  - Custodial Offices
- Plexiglass Shields
  - Main Offices
- Face Shields
  - Every employee
- Gloves
  - Classrooms & Offices
  - Custodial Staff
- Gowns
  - Nurses
  - Custodial Staff
- Face Masks
  - Available for employees
  - Custodial Staff
  - KN95 mask to Custodial Staff for COVID Cases
- Daily Disinfectant
  - EPA Approved
- Bio-Protect
  - EPA registered, water-based, antimicrobial protective coating applied to high touch items/areas (coating lasts 90 days)
  - Enhances the disinfectants used daily

The Facilities Department is conducting ongoing follow-up and training with building custodial staff to ensure the daily cleaning & disinfecting is completed. Facilities is also frequently reviewing the COVID Response process with building custodial staff.