

HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE”

Health and Safety Update

September 4, 2020

Since our last communication, the District has taken more significant steps and is continuing with the retro-commissioning process to improve the air quality and safety in our schools to ensure everyone's health.

As reported by Mr. Charles Caramanna, PE, LEED AP, BCxP, CCP of Greyhawk:

“American Society of Heating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHAE) dictates all HVAC work. The ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force published its "Building Readiness Guidelines" on August 19, 2020 making recommendations for re-entry into schools.

These guidelines require the establishment of a Building Readiness Team to implement the building readiness process. In accordance with this recommendation, Holmdel School District has put together a Building Readiness Team consisting of Commissioning Agent, Testing & Balancing Provider, Building Automation System Provider and the Facilities Management Staff.

ASHRAE recommendations are addressed by the information outlined below:

Filtration Standards

The minimum recommended air filter performance is MERV 8. All current air filters used in Holmdel Schools presently are MERV 8, complying with the standard above. An assessment is currently being performed to evaluate older existing equipment for filters to determine if we can upgrade to MERV 13 or the highest achievable filter based on equipment age and capacity.

Bi-polar ionization Update - The bi-polar ionization filtration devices have been installed on 40 out of 53 units. We expect the remainder of these devices to be installed on all of the rooftop HVAC units before September 14.

Increase Ventilation - The criteria for the design of the Holmdel Schools is 2 complete air exchanges per hour. HVAC systems at the Holmdel Schools have been evaluated and adjusted to optimize their performance to meet or exceed this criterion in compliance with the guidelines.

Building Exhaust and Re-entrainment- Holmdel currently purges and replaces inside air by turning on the HVAC systems at all Holmdel Schools systems 2 hours before the building is open to the public and are run 2 hours after the building is vacated. This practice refreshes total air replacement at the beginning and the end of the day.”

New Hand Held UV-C Wand ([click here to see photo](#))

This device with a safety shield and automatic shut off will be used to sanitize keyboards and other surfaces during the school day and between classes. Students will not be present when the wand is being used by members of our custodian staff. The device automatically shuts off if the wand is tilted up to a point where it would strike the operator.

Application of MicroShield 360

The District had an independent laboratory conduct test on Micro Shield 360 ([Unique Coating System](#)) to create another level of sanitization and safety for our students and staff. The results ([Test Results](#)) were positive and we have begun applying it to surfaces throughout the District. While the application process is new, based on initial applications, we believe the entire task of applying this product throughout the District will be completed by the start of the school year.