



ROSSVILLE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

James W. Hanna, Ph.D., *Superintendent*

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December 30, 2019

Ron Clark, Industrial Hygienist
Indiana Department of Health
2 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Clark,

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the results of the indoor air quality evaluation of the kindergarten classrooms at Rossville Elementary on December 16, 2019. The evaluation was conducted based on a referral from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's complaint coordinator. The complaint was initiated by an individual concerning the water leaks and stained ceiling tiles along with the possibility of mold in the kindergarten classrooms. The report was received on December 23, 2019, by email, and was limited in scope to the kindergarten classrooms.

Based on the sample results and Mr. Clark's visual inspection they noted four areas to be addressed.

- 1) 410 IAC 33-3-1(b) states "The IAQ coordinator's contact information shall also be published: (1) on the school or state agency's website; and (2) in the school or state agency's handbook." The inspector was unable to locate the IAC coordinator's information on the school website.

Response: Mr. Donald Loren "Buck" Fuller has been designated as Rossville Consolidated School District's IAQ Coordinator. His contact information will be posted to the district's website and placed in the school's Student/Parent Handbook. His contact information is as follows:

Mr. Donald Loren "Buck" Fuller, IAQ Coordinator
Rossville Consolidated School District
1 Robert Egly Drive
Rossville, IN 46065
765-379-2990 Ext. 350

- 2) The airborne fungal concentration in room 226 was higher than the outside sample but within the range inspectors typically see in classrooms at this time of year. The inspector stated it is not unusual to see indoor concentrations slightly higher than outdoors when the outdoor temperature is below freezing or there is snow cover. The inspector wrote that they do not think this higher concentration is due to mold growth in the classroom.

Response: The inspector's assessment indicated that he did not believe the higher concentration was due to mold growth in the classroom. However as an extra precaution, the district will monitor the area on a consistent basis to watch for any indication of mold growth in the classroom.

- 3) 410 IAC 33-4-2 states "carbon dioxide concentrations in the breathing zone shall never exceed 700 ppm over the outdoor concentration." The carbon dioxide concentration in rooms 224 and 226 were substantially higher than allowed. Studies have shown that elevated carbon dioxide concentrations temporarily affect students' cognitive ability. The inspector understood the school is in the process of replacing the classroom HVAC units with ones that can supply additional fresh air and these two rooms have the old units. The inspector recommended that the district do it's best to balance the temperature requirements with supplying as much fresh air as possible to these rooms until the units are replaced. Room 206 does have a new HVAC and the carbon dioxide concentration was slightly higher than the limit. The inspector recommended that the settings be checked to ensure sufficient fresh air is being supplied.

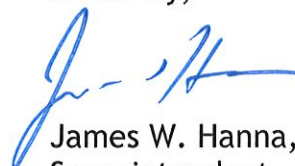
Response: The IAQ Coordinator has requested the contractors to increase the fresh air flow to Room 206 in an attempt to reduce the carbon dioxide concentration in that classroom. The contractors have been made aware of the excessive carbon dioxide concentration in rooms 224 and 226. Our maintenance staff will work with contractors in an effort to reduce the concentration of carbon dioxide within the classrooms. Additionally, the Superintendent has requested the IAQ Coordinator to make periodic inspections of the classrooms to determine the CO₂ levels at different times during the school day. Thereafter, the IAQ Coordinator can attempt to balance the air quality in the classrooms by making prescriptive data driven adjustments.

- 4) 410 IAC 33-4-6(b) states "Scented candles and air fresheners are not to be used in classrooms." The inspector could smell fragrances in one classroom but did not see an air freshener. He asked to remind teachers and staff that these items are not allowed in the classrooms as they cause asthma triggers.

Response: The Superintendent emailed the teachers and staff on December 23, 2019, at 11:40 a.m. concerning the inspection. The Superintendent noted to the staff, "... scented candles and air fresheners are NOT to be used in classrooms. Therefore, if you have an air freshener or a scented candle (or any candle, as that violates fire code) please remove them before students return." Therefore, the expectation from the administration is that scented candles and air fresheners were to be removed from classrooms by January 7, 2020, when students return.

This response is being mailed to Mr. Ron Clark at the Indiana Department of Health as prescribed and will be posted at the location in the school building so it is accessible to all students, parents, and school employees for 14 days with the original report as prescribed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Hanna", written over the printed name.

James W. Hanna, Ph. D.
Superintendent