## **Indoor Air Quality**

IAQ (indoor air quality) determines the quality of our lives. IAQ can determine the failure or success of students and the general health and welfare of our employees. What determines a building's IAQ is a complex and often misleading maze. The air that we breathe at our work is not the only environmental component of our school's IAQ. Various mechanical parameters of the workplace can be studied and measured, such as taking air samples. Air sampling is a valuable tool when attempting to determine if a building is healthy or 'sick' at a point in time. Additionally, the humidity, lighting and temperature of the indoor environment, exposure to cleaning chemicals, building materials, HVAC design and general housekeeping are all important indicees. A person's general mental health is another important part of the puzzle that must be factored into the equation.

Orange County Schools is devoted to providing a clean and healthy place for working and learning. We have been actively working on IAQ problems since the mid 1990s and continue to spend substantial public resources in this area.