

**Wilmington Public Schools
High School
Wilmington, MA**

2020

HVAC System Evaluation



Prepared For:

**Town of Wilmington
30 Church Street
Wilmington, MA 01887**

Prepared By:

**BLW Engineers, Inc.
311 Great Road
Post Office Box 1551
Littleton, MA 01460**

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GENERAL

Wilmington Public Schools engaged BLW Engineers to evaluate the Wilmington High School HVAC system relative to its current operating conditions, re-opening to the building to the public and potential considerations relative to COVID-19. BLW performed an initial site visit as well as reviewed the original construction documents and supporting building documentation provided by the Town of Wilmington.

While at the site, BLW Engineers met with the facilities operator who reported the HVAC systems receives regular preventative maintenance which includes filter replacement, grease motors and bearings, replace fan belts and verify damper and valve operation.

The Wilmington High School is located at 159 Church Street, originally constructed in 2015; the school comprises approximately 154,000 square feet of educational space.

HVAC SYSTEM EVALUATION

Existing Conditions

General

The space heat, air conditioning and ventilation air is provided throughout the facility via fourteen (14) roof mounted, XT Series Air Handling Units manufactured by York. Each AHU system is equipped with a hydronic heat coil as well as a cooling coil to provide heating, cooling and ventilation air. The central boiler plant consists of (3) Hydrotherm KN-30 natural gas-fired condensing boilers, each with an output of 2,780 MBH. Boiler system includes water specialties, insulated hot water distribution piping system, boiler breeching system and DDC controls. Insulated hot water distribution system from the boilers provides heating hot water into the insulated hot water distribution piping system throughout the building. There are two (2) Primary circulator pumps are rated at 770 GPM at 100 FT HD that serve the heating system. The boiler system includes a 30% glycol solution.

Chilled water is provided by (2) 225 Ton Screw chillers located within the mechanical room. There are (2) cooling towers mounted on the roof that reject heat during the cooling season. The facility has been equipped with main injection chiller pump and cooling tower pumps as well as associated system controls.

Athletic Rooms and Locker Rooms

AHU-1 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 7,300 CFM with 7,300 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation of the Locker rooms and the various areas adjacent to the Gymnasium. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF). AHU-1 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a

return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Administrative, Media, Consumer Science and Flex

AHU-2 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 13,100 CFM with 7,200 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation to various admin office and classroom areas. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF). The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Science fume hoods have dedicated roof mounted lab exhaust fans. Consumer science spaces have been provided with dedicated exhaust fans.

Art, Computer and Graphics

AHU-3 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 14,100 CFM with 14,100 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation of Art, Computer and Graphics classroom spaces. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements. AHU-3 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Classrooms

AHU-4 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 9,000 CFM with 6,700 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for various classroom spaces. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Classroom Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant +

0.12 CFM x SF or for a typical 1,000 classroom with 25 occupants that would be 370 CFM). The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Stage

AHU-5 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 12,000 CFM with 1,000 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for the Stage Area. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Classroom Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF or for a typical 1,000 classroom with 25 occupants that would be 370 CFM). The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Classrooms

AHU-6 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 10,700 CFM with 7,000 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for various classroom spaces. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Classroom Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF or for a typical 1,000 classroom with 25 occupants that would be 370 CFM). AHU-6 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts

it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Cafeteria & Club Rooms

AHU-7 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 8,900 CFM with 6,000 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for the Cafeteria and club spaces. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Classroom Ventilation = $10 \text{ CFM} \times \text{Occupant} + 0.12 \text{ CFM} \times \text{SF}$). AHU-7 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Gymnasium

AHU-8 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 20,000 CFM with 13,500 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for the Gymnasium. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Ventilation = $10 \text{ CFM} \times \text{Occupant} + 0.12 \text{ CFM} \times \text{SF}$). The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Auditorium

AHU-9 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 13,000 CFM with 4,700 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for the Auditorium. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Ventilation = $10 \text{ CFM} \times \text{Occupant} + 0.12 \text{ CFM} \times \text{SF}$). The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal

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Music

AHU-10 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 3,300 CFM with 2,000 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for the Gymnasium. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF). AHU-10 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Science Labs & Prep Rooms

AHU-11 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 13,100 CFM with 13,100 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for the Gymnasium. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF). AHU-10 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 70% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Classrooms

AHU-12 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 9,000 CFM with 5,800 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for various classroom spaces. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Classroom Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF or for a typical 1,000 classroom with 25 occupants that would be 370 CFM). AHU-12 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Classrooms

AHU-13 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 8,600 CFM with 6,200 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for various classroom spaces. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Classroom Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF or for a typical 1,000 classroom with 25 occupants that would be 370 CFM). AHU-12 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat coil should modulate open as required to maintain space temperature setpoint in both the summer and winter months. Each terminal unit is provided with a sound attenuator. The rooftop unit is provided with a variable speed return fan that varies linearly with the supply fan, returning air from each space from a ceiling return register to a return duct distribution system to the rooftop unit on the roof where the return fan either mixes the return with the outdoor air to be reused by the rooftop unit or exhausts it to the outdoors. The unit has been designed with a MERV-8 pre-filter and a 12" MERV-13 final filter. Based on conversations in the field with the Facility team, MERV-14 filters have been purchased for all AHU systems.

Fitness & Business Spaces

AHU-14 is located on the roof and has a design airflow capacity of 5,800 CFM with 3,200 CFM outdoor air for hydronic heating, chilled water cooling and ventilation for various classroom spaces. The original ventilation air design exceeds current code requirements (Classroom Ventilation = 10 CFM x Occupant + 0.12 CFM x SF or for a typical 1,000 classroom with 25 occupants that would be 370 CFM). AHU-12 is equipped with an integral energy recovery wheel with a 62% eff wheel assembly. The unit is a variable air volume system providing conditioned air for each space terminating into the variable air volume (VAV's) terminal units that are controlled by local space sensors. Exterior VAV zones have been provided with hot water reheat coils at various locations. The VAV units provide supply air temperature for the worst case zone requiring air conditioning and the variable air volume terminal unit and reheat

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Miscellaneous

Bathrooms, Janitor's Closets, Storage, etc. are provided by exhaust registers, exhaust duct distribution system and roof exhaust fans. Bathrooms are provided with hot water heating terminal equipment.

Specialty exhaust systems have been provided for the Science Rooms, Kiln, Dark Room, Art Room, Art Storage and Science Storage.

Electric rooms have been provided with heat dissipation systems including an exhaust fan, a gravity intake with motor operated damper and a temperature sensor to maintain a maximum space temperature.

Miscellaneous spaces have been provided with hot water terminal equipment interconnected with the hot water distribution piping system.

The building is controlled by electronic controls (DDC).

EQUIPT. TAG		SERVICE	LOCATION	TOTAL UNIT AIR FLOW RATE (CFM)	MIN. OUTSIDE AIR FLOW RATE (CFM)	CAPACITY CONTROL		SUPPLY FAN					
EQUIPT.	#					RANGE	TYPE	NO. OF FANS	NO. OF VFDS	SUPPLY AIR FLOW RATE PER FAN (CFM)	RPM	EXTERNAL STATIC PRESSURE (IN W.C.)	TOTAL STATIC PRESSURE (IN W.C.)
AHU	1	LOCKER/ATHLETIC ROOMS, GYM SUPPORT	BAND ROOF	7,300	7,300	30-100%	VFD	1	1	7,300	2,547	2.50	6.14
AHU	2	ADMIN, MEDIA, CONSUMER SCIENCE, FLEX	MAIN ROOF	13,100	7,200	30-100%	VFD	1	1	13,100	1,709	2.00	4.68
AHU	3	ART, COMPUTER, GRAPHICS	MAIN ROOF	14,100	14,100	30-100%	VFD	1	1	14,100	1,349	2.00	5.69
AHU	4	CLASSROOMS	MAIN ROOF	9,000	6,700	30-100%	VFD	1	1	9,000	2,251	2.00	6.15
AHU	5	STAGE	BAND ROOF	12,000	1,000	30-100%	VFD	1	1	12,000	1,419	0.50	2.67
AHU	6	CLASSROOMS	MAIN ROOF	10,700	7,000	30-100%	VFD	1	1	10,700	1,978	1.75	5.49
AHU	7	CAFETERIA, CLUB ROOMS	GYM ROOF	8,900	6,000	30-100%	VFD	1	1	8,900	2,128	1.50	5.17
AHU	8	GYMNASIUM	GYM ROOF	20,000	13,650	30-100%	VFD	1	1	20,000	1,118	1.00	4.10
AHU	9	AUDITORIUM	GYM ROOF	13,000	4,700	30-100%	VFD	1	1	13,000	1,596	0.75	3.68
AHU	10	MUSIC	BAND ROOF	3,300	2,000	30-100%	VFD	1	1	3,300	2,576	1.25	3.70
AHU	11	SCIENCE LABS, PREP ROOMS	MAIN ROOF	13,100	13,100	30-100%	VFD	1	1	13,100	1,777	1.75	5.35
AHU	12	CLASSROOMS	MAIN ROOF	9,000	5,800	30-100%	VFD	1	1	9,000	2,217	1.75	5.85
AHU	13	CLASSROOMS	MAIN ROOF	8,600	6,200	30-100%	VFD	1	1	8,600	2,214	2.25	6.16
AHU	14	FITNESS, BUSINESS	MAIN ROOF	5,800	3,200	30-100%	VFD	1	1	5,800	2,283	2.25	5.56

EQUIPT. TAG		SERVICE	FAN DATA				TYPE
EQUIPT.	#		AIR FLOW RATE (CFM)	AIR TEMP (A) (°F)	EXTERNAL STATIC PRESSURE (IN W.C.)	FAN SPEED (RPM)	
CREF	1.1	CHILLER ROOM	2,500	70	0.50	1,189	MIXED FLOW
DEF	1.1	KITCHEN DRYER	220	100	0.50	1,526	ROOF VENTILATOR
DEF	1.2	CONSUMER SCIENCE DRYER	220	100	0.50	1,526	ROOF VENTILATOR
DEF	1.3	SPED DRYER	220	100	0.50	1,526	ROOF VENTILATOR
DWF	1.1	DISHWASHER	550	100	0.75	1,390	DOWNBLAST
GEF	1.1	GENERAL EXHAUST	1,000	70	0.75	1,612	UPBLAST
GEF	1.2	ART KILN	280	100	0.75	1,413	UTILITY
GEF	1.3	SPED EXH	550	100	0.75	1,170	UPBLAST
GEF	1.4	ACID NEUTRALIZATION	300	100	0.50	1,360	UTILITY
GEF	1.5	CONS SCIENCE EXH	2,100	100	1.50	1,508	UPBLAST
GEF	1.6	EMERGENCY ELECTRIC 1219	175	70	0.25	1,108	UPBLAST
HEF	1.1	SCIENCE FUME HOOD	9,050	70	3.50	1,238	UPBLAST/PLUME
HEF	1.2	SCIENCE FUME HOOD	9,050	70	3.50	1,238	UPBLAST/PLUME
KEF	1.1	KITCHEN HOOD	4,400	100	2.00	1,301	UPBLAST
TEF	1.1	TOILET EXHAUST (AREA B)	2,025	70	0.75	1,046	UPBLAST
TEF	1.2	TOILET EXHAUST (AREA D)	2,175	70	0.75	1,081	UPBLAST
TEF	1.3	TOILET EXHAUST (AREA A)	1,500	70	1.00	1,681	UPBLAST
TEF	1.4	TOILET EXHAUST (AREA C)	1,200	70	0.75	1,396	UPBLAST
TEF	1.5	SPED TOILET EXHAUST	200	70	0.50	1,501	UPBLAST

EQUIPT. TAG		VALVE INLET DIA. (IN)	SELECTION RANGE	
EQUIPT.	NUM		MIN	MAX
VV	1.1	0' - 6"	80	440
VV	1.2	0' - 8"	441	785
VV	1.3	0' - 10"	786	1,225
VV	1.4	1' - 0"	1,226	1,765
VV	1.5	1' - 2"	1,766	2,405
VV	1.6	1' - 4"	2,406	3,140

GENERAL PUBLICATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Publications referenced include ASHRAE and State of Massachusetts Re-opening Guidelines for schools.

Operating school buildings under epidemic conditions requires a holistic framework during the crisis and the restoration to potentially a new “normal” after the public health emergency has ended.

Considerations include:

- Review of current operational practices
- Holistic view for owner/operator

Review of current operational practices

- Modes of operation of HVAC systems
 - sequences of operations
 - set points
 - schedules
- Verification that equipment and systems are properly functioning and have the enhanced capabilities to address public health considerations, with a focus building air circulating systems.
- Understanding that infected people who are asymptomatic may enter buildings, increasing the likelihood of the spread of virus through air systems to other occupants.

Holistic view for owner/operator

Owners and operators should take a holistic view of their buildings and:

1. Develop a pandemic preparedness plan
2. Review indoor and outdoor environment
3. Review the space types
4. Operate and maintain HVAC
 - Air-Conditioning and Ventilation systems
 - Exhaust systems
5. Check Elevator Control
6. Check BAS and Access Control Systems

Develop a Pandemic Preparedness Plan

Consider these possible goals:

- Reduce the spread of infection among building occupants,
- Maintain HVAC and Building Service Systems in safe and healthy conditions,
- Minimize impact on building occupants and visitors,
- Communicate risks and precautions being taken with occupants transparently
- Implement measures that help make occupants feel secure:
 - Require occupants, visitors and maintenance personnel to wear appropriate PPE per CDC,
 - Screen, monitor and control the circulation of occupants and guests to help avoid transmission of disease,

- Increase frequency for surface disinfection on frequently touched surfaces, such as door handles, handrails, door bells and elevator buttons.

Ensure continuity of supply chains and have backup plans.

- Identify your critical suppliers, e.g. filters, cleaners, disinfectants, parts, PPE, etc.,
- Identify vendors who could negatively affect your operation if they fail to deliver,
- Review current service provider agreements to see if alternate suppliers can be engaged in the event of a supply disruption, for example, equipment service providers, and understand contract limitations and restrictions on using alternative providers,
- Ask critical suppliers to share their pandemic plans:
 - What does their plan include?
 - Have they tested their plan? When was it updated?
 - Set boundaries with suppliers – ask that they do not send staff who may be showing signs of illness to your property.

Review contract agreements:

- Review contract agreements: Review contracts with service providers, utilities, and suppliers to determine what rights and remedies they have because of disruptions due to unforeseeable circumstances that prevent fulfillment of a contract.

Establish a communication protocol and continuity of operations plan:

- Identify key contacts and publish normal and emergency contact information,
- Document the chain of command and communication requirements, and provide instructions and outline expectations for how all responses are to be documented and what records shall be maintained and distributed.

Provide staff with:

- PPE per CDC and OSHA requirements,
- Training on the proper use and disposal of PPE and waste,
- Training on infection prevention and control measures,
- Cross training to ensure critical building functions are maintained in an emergency, and
- Instruction to staff to stay at home if they are feeling sick.

Check with insurance providers to determine whether there are special measures that can be taken to preserve coverage or lower premiums.

Next Steps:

1. Notify staff, tenants and visitors about the plan
2. Follow all local, state and federal executive orders, statutes, regulations, guidelines, restrictions and limitations on use, occupancy and separation
3. Follow OSHA Guidelines, especially the portion in the guide regarding filter and outside air.

4. Ensure that custodial staff and service providers job descriptions includes performing proper cleaning procedures based EPA and CDC guidance using approved products and methods:
 - o Disinfect high touch areas of HVAC and other Building Service systems such as on/off switches, and thermostats;
 - o Consider UV light disinfection devices of high touch counters in public spaces.
 - o Disinfect interiors of refrigerated devices, such as refrigerators, coolers and vending machines where the virus can survive for potentially long periods of time.
5. Consider installing a thermal camera at building entrances to help screen visitors for elevated body temperatures. Note that that infected individuals may show no signs of being ill, including having no fever, and can be responsible for much of the transmission. In such cases, thermal imaging may not be effective.
6. Provide MERV13 or higher filters for air handling equipment that recirculate air when equipment has the capacity; however, most existing air handling equipment will not be able to accommodate MERV13 filters without significantly impacting system operation, outdoor air delivery to the space and equipment component failures.
7. The HVAC systems that are physical or capacity limited for better filtration and UV decontamination systems in the return airstream, consider installing portable filtration and air cleaning devices such as UVGI (Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation), especially if seniors or anyone with other health issues or compromised immune systems may be located, or, in mission critical areas where required.
8. Provide automatic hand sanitizer dispensers in the high touch areas and other common areas, including spaces where equipment where frequent maintenance is required, and ensure dispensers are serviced often and remain operational.
9. Post signage in prominent locations that contain information and instructions to educate and remind staff about proper procedures to maintain personal protection while cleaning, replacing filters and moving or using other equipment that maybe contaminated
10. Consider providing antimicrobial door mats at high traffic entrances to the building.
11. Institute additional cleaning procedures to ensure proper disinfection of bathrooms, kitchens and common areas. Educate cleaning and maintenance staff on proper personal protection and PPE use including following OSHA worker exposure guidelines.

Review Indoor and Outdoor Environment

- Maintain dry bulb temperatures within the comfort ranges indicated in ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 55-2017
- Maintain relative humidity between 40% and 60% through the use of the air conditioning systems.

In Cold Climates

- i. HVAC systems with no humidification may not achieve the minimum humidity indicated,
- ii. Observe building assemblies and finishes frequently for condensation when indoor dew points rise above the surface temperatures of the assemblies and finishes,

In Cold Climates

iii. Excessive humidity may lead to condensation, indoor mold growth, and degradation of indoor air quality.

Review the space types

Conference Rooms	Keep doors to be opened to promote good ventilation where possible. If doors must be closed, consider local air filtration and cleaning devices and appliances such as portable air filters, or provide local exhaust fans discharging directly to the outside to improve ventilation.
Pantries/Storage Rooms	Provide local exhaust, or portable air filtration and cleaning appliances, especially if refrigerators, or similar appliances, are presented.
Public/Large Assembly Spaces	Where there can be a large assembly of people, consider air treatment, e.g. upper-room UVGI lamps.

Operate and maintain the HVAC system

Building owners and service professionals should follow the requirements of ASHRAE Standard 180-2018, Standard Practice for the Inspection and Maintenance of Commercial HVAC Systems which has tables to show the typical maintenance required for equipment that has been in operation. Consider PPE when maintaining ventilation materials including filters, condensate. Consult additional guidance before duct cleaning. Check specifically:

- Dampers, filter, and economizers seals and frames are intact and clean, are functional and are responding to control signals. MERV13 or higher filters are required for capture of airborne viruses; however, most existing equipment will not be able to support the associated pressure drop of these filters and equipment should be provided with only the highest MERV rating that does not affect the heating and cooling capacity of the units.
- Zone and air temperature are calibrated and accurately reporting environmental conditions to the BAS or local controllers.
- Exhaust fans are functional and venting to the outdoors.
- Check outside air intake regularly for any potential risk such as exhaust nearby and provide proper clearance if assessable by pedestrians, etc.

Operate and maintain the HVAC system – Air conditioning and ventilation systems

- Continued operation of all systems is recommended.
- For offices with fan coil units, open windows 2 hours before and after occupied periods.

Centralized and floor-by-floor Variable Air Volume (VAV) systems: General information

- For central or floor-by-floor VAV systems that have the capacity to operate with 100% outside air, such as an economizer cycle, close return air dampers and open outdoor air dampers to 100% or to the maximum setting that the HVAC system can accommodate and still maintain acceptable indoor conditions.
- If there are heating and cooling coils to temper the air, it can provide comfort and eliminate recirculation (in the mild weather seasons this will have smaller impacts to energy consumption, thermal comfort, or humidity control, however, using 100% outside can be more difficult in extreme weather conditions).
- Considerations also should be given in areas with dry outside air that may lower the relative humidity to below 40%.
- Prioritize increasing outside air over humidity (see concerns about operating at indoor humidity outside the range of 40%-60%).

Centralized and floor-by-floor Variable Air Volume (VAV) systems: Floor-by-floor

- In floor-by-floor VAV systems that have only minimum outside air damper positions or openings, open outside air damper to its maximum position (the same cautions and concerns stated above apply).
- If outside air is supplied centrally from outside air handling units (typically at mechanical levels) to all floors, and there are unoccupied tenant floors, divert the outside air to the occupied floors.
- Consider changing the floor level VAV air handling units' discharge air temperature setpoint the maximum (typically no higher than 60° F).
- This will cause VAV terminal units (boxes) to open to try and satisfy space cooling loads which will increase the number of air changes in the space being served.

Centralized and floor-by-floor Variable Air Volume (VAV) systems: Cooling coils

- Cooling coils, heating coils and condensate drain pans inside air handling equipment can become contaminated.
- Therefore, consider adding UVGI for coil surface and drain pan disinfection are encouraged as it will reduce the needs and frequency for in-person coil surface disinfection.
- These devices and systems should be monitored often and regular and emergency maintenances should continue.
- Provide PPE protection for building operators, maintenance technicians and anyone else who must inspect or come in contact with the device or equipment.

Centralized and floor-by-floor Variable Air Volume (VAV) systems: Operable windows

- In buildings with operable windows, when outside air thermal and humidity conditions and outdoor air quality are acceptable, open windows where appropriate during occupied hours.

- Disabling the interlock between opening windows and air conditioning system lockout or shut down if this feature is provided for in the Building Automation System.
- Monitor indoor spaces for possible contaminants entering through the windows such as toilets exhaust located nearby or for windows accessible to public and high traffic on adjacent streets and walkways.
- Exposure to seasonal and other outdoor allergens (pollen and mold spores) may occur with windows opened.
- Special ductwork cleaning, or, changing filters more often than normal is not necessary.

Domestic Heating Water systems:

- Keep heating water systems circulating and maintain temperatures above 140°F to avoid microbial incursion. Do not let water temperature to drop below 120°F.

Operate and maintain the HVAC system - Exhaust systems

- Exhaust system for toilets should run 24/7. Do not open operable windows in toilets.
- Other exhaust systems should continue to run as normal. Run exhaust systems 2 hours before and after occupied periods.
- If there are exhaust outlets located in pedestrian areas outside, provide warning signs and consider diverting or rearranging the exhaust air discharge locations so that they would pose no opportunity to cause harm.

Elevator Control

1. Turn on elevator cab (lift) ventilation fans, where possible
2. Encourage occupants to take stairs, where possible, especially when elevator lobbies are crowded.
3. Allow elevators to run at high speed to minimize time in elevator.
4. Close elevator lobby vestibule doors, if available.
5. Consider local air treatment devices in frequently used lifts.

Building Automation System and Access Control System Programming

Building Automation Systems:

- Automate the control sequences in this document as a "Epidemic Mode" operation that can be turned on, shut down or override, if needed, by manual selection of the operator.
- Provide remote access to staff and trusted service providers who are responsible for operating and maintain Building Automation Systems, security, access control, information technology, fire alarm and life safety systems. Have written procedures and test remote access and secure access levels and permissions for all individuals prior to an emergency, if possible.

Access Control Systems:

- Post signage and communicate to tenants, and post visitors' procedures for entering and leaving the building that will minimize the time spent in public spaces.
- Use touchless access control system if available and where possible.
- Require and enforce social distancing within public and shared spaces using signage.
- Ensure that workspaces are situated to accommodate social distancing recommendations

WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL PLANNED REOPENING

The Wilmington Public Schools plans on the following school re-opening:

- School is to be occupied by 50% of students on Monday/Tuesday, Wednesday will be a disinfection/cleaning day and then occupied by 50% of students on Thursday/Friday
- Classrooms seating will be reorganized to provide recommended social distancing.
- Cafeteria will not be used in normal fashion; cafeteria will be provided with PPE and be occupied by smaller groups that are socially distanced.
- Gym will not be used in normal fashion.
- Library and Auditorium will not be used in normal fashion.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on applicable guidelines (ASHRAE, State of Massachusetts Re-opening Guidelines, etc.), the Wilmington High School is safe to occupy and should consider the following best practice operation of the current HVAC system in an effort to provide an environment to best protect the occupants and visitors to the building during the pandemic:

Tier 1 Recommendations: Tier 1 recommendations are immediate revisions to system operation prior to start of classroom and until the start of the heating season.

1. Create an "Epidemic Mode" Building Management System sequence of operation that can be turned on, shut down or override, if needed, by manual selection of the operator.
2. All of the air handling units that provide heating, ventilating and air conditioning to the school have been designed for MERV14 filters.
3. Replace the unit filters with the best filters available that will not impact the heating capacity of the units and develop a filter replacement plan; the existing air smaller equipment will not be able to accommodate MERV13 filters without significantly impacting system operation, outdoor air delivery to the space and equipment component failures.
4. Filter upgrades will require more frequent changes due to pressure drop of filter and particulates that "dirty" the filters.
5. Continued operation of heating and cooling systems is recommended.
6. Operate toilet exhaust fans 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.; other fans shall operate two hours prior and two hours post occupied hours.
7. Monitor Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) levels in occupied areas of the building.
8. Should building exhaust exit building through sidewall louvers subject to pedestrian traffic, provide warning signs and consider diverting or rearranging the exhaust air discharge locations so that they would pose no opportunity to cause harm.

9. Operate the building in occupied mode with mechanical ventilation prior and two hours post occupied hours; where mechanical ventilation and exhaust are not currently provided, utilize operable windows.
10. Operate the building in the occupied mode during disinfection and cleaning operations.
11. Operate Classroom unit ventilators and computer room split systems with ventilation as originally designed. Based on reduced classroom sizes, the classroom current system can provide 20 CFM/occupant which exceeds current code requirements (10 CFM per occupant plus 0.12 CFM/SF) and can be supplemented by operable windows.
12. Continuously operate Locker Room rooftop unit AHU-1 and associated exhaust fans at 100 percent outdoor air as designed; the air handling unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
13. Operate Administration and Media Center rooftop air handling unit AHU-2 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing 20/CFM per occupant for 360 occupants; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
14. Operate Art, Computer and Graphic Classroom rooftop air handling unit AHU-3 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing more than 20/CFM per occupant; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
15. Operate Classroom rooftop air handling unit AHU-4 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing more than 20/CFM per occupant; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
16. Operate Stage rooftop air handling unit AHU-5 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing 20/CFM per occupant for 50 occupants; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
17. Operate Classroom rooftop air handling unit AHU-6 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing more than 20/CFM per occupant; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
18. Operate Cafeteria and Club Rooms rooftop air handling unit AHU-7 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing 20/CFM per occupant for 300 occupants; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
19. Operate Gymnasium rooftop air handling unit AHU-8 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing 20/CFM per occupant for 625 occupants; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
20. Operate Auditorium rooftop air handling unit AHU-9 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing 20/CFM per occupant for 235 occupants; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
21. Operate Music air handling unit AHU-10 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing more than 20/CFM per occupant; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
22. Operate Science Classroom and Prep Room rooftop air handling unit AHU-11 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing more than 20/CFM per occupant; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
23. Operate Classroom rooftop air handling unit AHU-12 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing more than 20/CFM per occupant; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
24. Operate Classroom rooftop air handling unit AHU-13 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing more than 20/CFM per occupant; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.

25. Operate Fitness and Business rooftop air handling unit AHU-14 at maximum design air flow; the unit has the capability of providing 20/CFM per occupant for 110 occupants; the unit was designed for MERV14 filters.
26. At the commencement of school and until the heating season and when outdoor air temperature conditions allow, the **air handling equipment with recirculated air** can be run in the “economizer mode” with 100% outdoor air and no recirculation.
27. Operate air handling units with highest percentage of outdoor air possible without adversely affecting the occupied environment; outdoor air percentage will be dependent on outdoor air temperature and allowable indoor air temperatures above/below normal operation.
28. Reset discharge air setpoint as high as possible to encourage variable air volume dampers to maximized outdoor air into the building.
29. Disable any CO2 demand control ventilation sequences of operation; operate units at maximum outdoor air capacity.
30. Eliminate outdoor air to zones that are not occupied to better use in occupied areas.
31. Relocate occupants from areas that do not have mechanical ventilation or operable windows.
32. Use operable windows when outdoor air conditions allow.
33. Keep conference room doors open as much as possible or open windows when feasible.
34. Increase regular maintenance of all mechanical heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment.
35. Monitor the heating, ventilating and air conditioning operation of the building on a continual basis.
36. Follow recommendations of holistic view of building recommendations in General Recommendations.

Tier 2 Recommendations: Tier 2 recommendations are supplemental revisions/additions to the existing systems that may be required for the heating season when systems will need to utilize recirculated air to maintain space temperature setpoints.

1. Provide additional filtration with portable HEPA filter units or UV filtration units for spaces with recirculated air that has not been provided with MERV13 or better filtration.
2. Install portable humidifiers or retrofit existing heating/ventilating equipment with humidifiers for local humidity control.
3. Add plug-in type supplemental electric heat as required for increased ventilation requirements if necessary.
4. Apply and use outdoor air quality sensors or reliable web-based data for outdoor pollution information as part of the new ventilation operation.
5. Consider adding UV decontamination in return airstream for rooftop units.
6. Consider UV decontamination lights on highly touched surfaces.

Notes:

1. While there is ventilation air and return air associated with each classroom air handling units, the units have been designed for MERV14 filters.
2. While there is ventilation air and return air associated with rooftop units for the Gymnasium, Auditorium, Cafeteria and Media Center air handling units, the units have been designed for MERV14 filters.

3. These recommendations are based on guidance provided by applicable agencies and publications for best practices for protection of occupants and visitors to the building but do not provide absolute protection from the pandemic.
4. These recommendations will have a significant impact on the operating and maintenance related costs of the HVAC systems.