Board Policy 2215: Air Quality Restrictions on Outdoor Activities, Practice, and Competition

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 10/01/2020 | Last Reviewed Date: 10/01/2020

The Genesee Joint School District is responsible for ensuring the safety of its students and student athletes when participating in physical education, recess, practices or athletic contests.

The Superintendent or their designee shall consider the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) assessments of air quality as the determining factor when making a decision to allow or not allow students to participate in outdoor activities and contests.

Typically, the following guidelines will be followed:

1. **Air Quality 51 to 100:** Measures will be taken to reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors by unusually sensitive people. Outdoor activities are permissible, paying close attention to those students who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.

2. **Air Quality 101 to 150:** Measures will be taken to reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors for all students and staff. Outdoor activities are permissible only when additional rest periods are provided for students. The Superintendent or designee will confer with the school's athletic director and school nurses or other medical personnel, if available, to determine appropriate additional rest periods. School personnel shall closely monitor all students, particularly those groups that are sensitive to poor air quality.

3. **Air Quality over 150:** Measures will be taken to avoid any outdoor physical activity by students or staff. All students and staff will remain indoors, and outdoor activities are not permissible. In the event an activity has begun and during the event the air quality rises above 150, all participants will be moved indoors until the air quality decreases to below 150 or the event will be cancelled or postponed as determined by the Superintendent or designee. Prior to a scheduled outdoor event, when air quality is over 100, the Superintendent or designee may postpone, move, or cancel the outdoor activity.

The following protocol shall be used to determine whether students, including student athletes, will be allowed to participate in outdoor activities when the air quality rates as Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or worse as indicated on the DEQ guidelines.

1. The District shall use the measurement taken at the local station on the http://airquality.deq.idaho.gov/ to determine the District's air quality.

2. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for deciding whether to hold or cancel outdoor recess and practices and contests for middle school/junior high and high school activities.

3. The decision to hold or cancel outdoor activities shall be made 2 hours in advance of the activity.

4. Best efforts will be made to provide notice that an outdoor activity will be held or cancelled. Such notice shall be communicated to students, staff, coaches, parents, and the community via email or phone.

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Other References	Description
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