

Schools Air Quality

Air pollution in schools doesn't seem like it would be an issue, especially with so much adult involvement with the children and teachers seemingly taking every precaution to give the kids excellent air quality. Yet the problem of having low air quality in schools is just as huge as the environmental air quality issues around the school. In fact, indoor air quality within schools can be between 2-100 times worse than outdoor areas, which is significant information considering this is our youth. There are many large and small factors that aid schools having poor air quality, and if we don't find a means to prevent further air pollution, we could end up euthanizing our school populations across the world without even trying.

Precisely, then, are the contributing factors that support these astonishing claims? First, most school buildings are old structures that are barely up to code to begin with. Many of the foundational flaws allow for moisture to leak through the cracks of the building and, during the summer months when the schools are on their summer breaks, no ventilation is provided as a means to allow air to pass through and possibly kill molds and other airborne toxins. When the schools open back up for the year, air units are checked and buildings are cleaned, yet the problem of mold that grew over the summer months still hasn't been addressed, leaving the air quality low and causing children to go home early with nausea, headaches, and possibly blurred vision if the mold index is really high. That leaves the school board to point their fingers at parents when, in essence, the school simply has a poor building that's never address any underlying mold concerns or possible sick building syndrome issues.

Surprisingly enough, not many school organizations have a plan in place to help monitor air pollution or any threats to the air quality young school children could potentially be exposed to. Evaluating the current building from basement to roof and identifying potential threats to air quality in schools would be the best initial first start for older school systems that cannot afford purchasing new land for a school or even new HVAC systems for the school. If you are sending your children to school and they are coming home in worse condition than you left them, it would behoove you as a parent to identify potential flaws in the air quality of the school and addressing the superintendent of the school what your thoughts are. Letting air pollution take over your community school is simply unacceptable for parents who cherish the education their children can receive; it is better to formulate a plan or at least coerce each teacher or homeroom to have an [air purifier](#) installed at the very least. With an [air purifier](#) available in each room, the air quality will rise incrementally and the air pollution will begin to leave the school, making your children smile everyday knowing they can breathe and learn in extreme comfort and unwavering confidence.