

Purpose

The purpose of this pamphlet is to provide information on measures taken to optimize ventilation, air quality and support a healthy, safe learning environment in Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) schools for students and staff for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.

Ministry Guidance on Ventilation and Air Quality Improvement

On August 4, 2021, the Ministry of Education issued memorandum 2021: B14 which included updated ventilation best practice guidance and the introduction of a standardized school ventilation report. The Ministry expects all school boards to continue implementation of best practice measures to improve ventilation and/or filtration in schools for the 2021-2022 school year. Accordingly, DPCDSB's Physical Plant Facilities Department has prepared and implemented a ventilation management plan to support this objective.

Ventilation and filtration are important components of an indoor air quality improvement strategy to help reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19:

1. Ventilation: Increasing the flow of outdoor/fresh air for diluting the concentration of any infectious particles; and
2. Filtration: Filtering air to remove infectious particles.

We have been making every effort to implement the ventilation optimization plan within and beyond the available resources, because:

Staff and Students' Health and Safety is Our First Priority.

Ventilation Optimization at DPCDSB



*"Ehud came to him, while he was sitting alone in his cool roof-chamber, and said, 'I have a message from God for you.' So he rose from his seat."
Judges 3:20*

DPCDSB's Ventilation Key Strategies

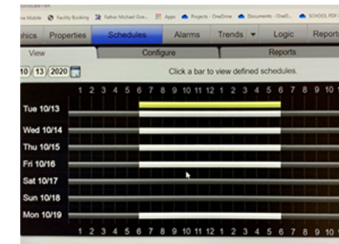
1. **Filter Upgrades:** the filters in all ventilation equipment have been upgraded from MERV-10 to the superior commercial grade MERV-13. The frequency of filter changes per year have also been increased from 3 to 5 times.



2. **Portable HEPA Filter Units:** Over 1700 portable HEPA filter units have been deployed to schools. All FDK classrooms will receive HEPA units, as required by the Ministry of Education.



3. **Extended Operating Ventilation Periods:** The ventilation systems in all facilities have been programmed to operate 2 hours before and 2 hours after occupancy. In addition, ventilation systems have been fully operating one week prior to the re-opening of schools.



4. **Enhanced Maintenance:** DPCDSB's in-house staff and independent third-party consultants have performed HVAC inspections, repairs, and adjustments to ensure mechanical systems are fully operational as designed.



Investments in Improving Ventilation and Air Quality

For the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years, DPCDSB invested the following amounts towards improvements in ventilation and air quality with funding received from the Ministry of Education and the Government of Canada.

Initiatives/projects include:

- Portable HEPA air purifiers
- Higher-grade (MERV-13) filters for ventilation systems
- New air handling units
- Rooftop units
- Unit ventilators
- Heat pumps
- Exhaust fans
- Building Automation Systems in schools

2020-2021 School Year	2021-2022 School Year
1. Ventilation Funding* - \$13.7 M	Ventilation Funding* - \$19.7 M
2. Ventilation projects completed - 31	Ventilation projects in progress/planned - 39
3. Schools receiving an investment – 151, which is 100% of total schools in the board.	Schools to receive an investment – 151, which is of total schools in the board.
<p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *This includes spending from dedicated ventilation programs, federal-provincial funding, provincial renewal funding and supplemental funding from other board sources. 2. It should be noted that DPCDSB has a renewal backlog of approximately \$345 million, of which about \$60 million is for required HVAC projects. Based on the current annual funding allocation for school renewal, this backlog is equivalent to approximately 11 years of funding. 	