

School/Facility: Talbott Springs Elementary
Location: First Grade POD (far right pod when facing front of school)
Date of IEQ Report Form: August 31, 2017 (called in August 18th)
Date(s) Investigated: August 18, 21, and 22, 2017
Date of Report: September 19, 2017

IEQ Concern:

Custodial staff reported humidity related mold growth on edges of some student desks.

IEQ Investigation Process:

Identify deficiencies that may impact IEQ and/or sources of odor concerns. Typically includes the following depending on the nature of concern, but not limited to:

- interview/questionnaire of concern individual(s)
- inspection above drop ceiling (condition of roof deck, pipe insulation, return air plenum)
- inspection of ventilation system (operation of variable air volume box and outdoor air dampers, check controls, measurements of carbon dioxide, temperature and relative humidity, sources near outdoor air intake, measure return and supply air volume, cleanliness of coils, liner and condensate pan)
- inspection of exterior
- inspection below drop ceiling (housekeeping, sink and floor drain traps, signs of past and present moisture concern via visual and/or moisture meter, mold growth, ensure connection of current and capping of abandoned sanitary vents, odorizers, excessive plants and fabric items, identify potential pathways, and measure volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, and lighting)

Findings:

- Building Services HVAC Control Specialist identified the heating coils within the ventilation system (serving the 1st grade POD) meant to dehumidify the incoming outdoor air were not functioning.
- The early stages of humidity mold growth was detected based on the amount and/or type of surfaces impacted. Growth was also observed on underside of student desk tops and on some wood casework.
- A few random surfaces in the nearby rooms of the adjacent kindergarten POD had growth.

Corrective Actions:

- Until certainty of the cause and resolved, plus to keep growth from expanding over the weekend, dehumidifiers were placed in the kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade PODs.
- After correcting the HVAC component issue, Building Services synced ventilation controls to receive an alert of such a failure in the future.

- A restoration contractor cleaned and disinfected all furniture surfaces in the first grade POD on August 21st. On August 22nd, HCPSS's Office of the Environment inspected all surfaces with the contractor present. Any missed items were cleaned at the time of the inspection.
- HCPSS Office of the Environment cleaned and disinfected the random surfaces in the second grade POD.
- As a precaution, data loggers were set out in each of PODs for a week to collect humidity and temperature readings.