



Thompson Tools for Schools, Indoor Air Quality Committee Newsletter Fall 2007

"The mission of the Thompson Public Schools' Indoor Air Quality Team (IAQ) is to improve and maintain good indoor environmental quality; thereby providing a sense of comfort, health and well being in a safe learning environment for all school occupants."

Dear TPS Staff, Board Members, Parents, and Friends:

November 2007 is here and the TPS IAQ is back to business hoping to make your Indoor Air Quality the best it can be! As we are parents too, and the majority of us work in the TPS buildings, we feel that proper maintenance of indoor air quality is more than a "quality" issue; it encompasses safety and stewardship of our investment in the students, staff and facilities.

Your IAQ committee was formed in March 2004, and in the three years since, we have accomplished some really great things:

- A TPS IAQ Mission Statement, TPS IAQ Mercury Spill Policy, and TPS IAQ Custodial Cleaning Protocol
- Annual Air Quality trainings delivered by the NE District Department of Health, including visits by a UCONN Health Hygienist, and an Industrial Hygienist
- Over the past three years, and in conjunction with the NE District Department of Health, air quality testing has taken place to include RADON, METHANE GAS, HUMIDITY, and CARBON DIOXIDE levels.
- Quarterly committee member walkthroughs of all three schools to ensure compliance with our green cleaner policy, and to inspect general cleanliness of the areas
- Promotion of "De-Clutter Days" to assist teachers and staff with removal of unwanted/unusable items from their areas
- Timely "Tips for Teachers" in our newsletters, and the development of a parent/staff handout

Additionally, we received the CT Environment Resource Team & the Environmental Protection Agency New England's Certificate of Recognition for protecting the health and well being of students and staff.

We are pleased to provide you with the following links that may answer questions you have about Tools for Schools, Allergies and Asthma, and general Indoor Air Quality:

<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/>
www.ct.gov/dph
www.aafa.org
www.aaaai.org
www.aanma.org

EPA Tools for Schools Program
CT Dept of Public Health
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
Asthma & Allergy Network / Mothers of Asthmatics

Our group meets the 2nd Monday of the month, in the MS Media Room. We invite anyone interested in their IAQ (parents, students, admin and staff) to attend. If you have any questions or comments, please email our School Nurse, Barbara Lesniewski, at blesniewski@thompson.ctschool.net.

Thank you for your continued support!