



August 26, 2021

To: School principals and center directors

RE: Installation of HEPA air purifiers in 17 schools/centers

The Lester B Pearson School Board has installed over 400 HEPA air purifiers. The decision to purchase air purifiers is an additional tactic to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in our schools and centres. The primary strategies to reduce the virus spread are

- 1- Stay at home and call 811 if they are not feeling well
- 2- Wear a mask
- 3- Physically distance
- 4- Wash your hands
- 5- Ventilation - Increase the flow of fresh air in buildings to dilute the concentration of infectious particles
- 6- Filtration- filter air to remove infectious particles.

All buildings are naturally or mechanically ventilated, or a combination of both. Naturally ventilated buildings bring fresh air through the windows and the doors. Mechanically ventilated buildings rely on fans to exhaust air from the building while louvers are opened to bring fresh air into the building.

In order to improve indoor air quality, the Lester B Pearson School Board has enhanced air ventilation-filtration in schools and centres.

Windows/doors will remain on a scheduled opening to bring fresh air into the buildings. Wherever possible mechanically ventilated buildings will have their filters upgraded to MERV 13 filters. Naturally ventilated buildings have had HEPA air purifiers installed.

The schools/centers that are partially or fully naturally ventilated and will receiving HEPA air purifiers are:

- Clearpoint elementary
- Dorset Elementary School
- Edgewater Elementary School
- Lakeside Academy
- Macdonald High School
- Mount Pleasant Elementary School
- Pearson Electrotechnology Center
- Place Cartier Adult Centre
- Saint Charles Elementary School
- Saint John Fisher Senior Elementary School
- Saint Patrick Elementary School
- Sherbrooke Junior Elementary School
- Soulanges Elementary School
- Sunshine Academy
- Verdun Elementary School
- Westpark Elementary School
- Westwood Senior High School

The use of HEPA filtration units, in combination with improved ventilation strategies and existing health and safety protocols, work together to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission and support a safer environment for staff and students

Regards,

Carol Heffernan