



Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

Kristina Box, MD, FACOG
State Health Commissioner

March 6, 2020

MB3-99-RLP #475
Ms. Marilyn Hissong, Superintendent
East Allen County Schools
1240 State Road 930 East
New Haven, IN 46774

Dear Ms. Hissong:

The purpose of this letter is to report the result of our indoor air quality evaluation of the Leo Jr/Sr High School on March 3rd. This evaluation was conducted at the request of a concerned citizen to address the air quality in the school. The inspection was limited in scope to address concerns about mold growth in the areas listed in Table 1.

The Indiana State Department of Health's Microbiological Laboratory incubated and counted the fungal and bacterial units. The total colony forming units per cubic meter of air (CFU/M³) were computed by adding the fungal and bacterial counts, and dividing the sum by the total volume of the sampled air. Please refer to Table 1 for further details. Indoor fungal counts were lower than the outdoor fungal counts. There are no limits established as an acceptable concentration of fungal counts indoors. There are guidelines that recommend fewer counts indoors than outdoors.

The Carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels inside was measured with the highest reading of 951 parts CO₂ per million parts of air (ppm). The School Indoor Air Quality rule, 410 IAC 33-4-2 states "carbon dioxide concentrations in the breathing zone shall never exceed 700 ppm over the outdoor concentration", in this case giving a limit of 1058 ppm.

The outdoor relative humidity was measured at 40 percent (%), and the indoor relative humidity had a range of 32% to 43%. The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) recommend the relative humidity in habitable spaces preferably should be maintained between 30% and 60% to minimize growth of allergenic and pathogenic organisms. High humidity levels have been found to increase the population size of molds, fungi and mites that may cause allergies. The evidence suggests that humidity levels should be maintained between 40% and 50% to reduce the incidence of upper respiratory infections and to minimize the adverse effect on people suffering from asthma or allergies. Such a range would be hard to maintain, however, exposure to higher or lower levels are unlikely to affect the health of most people.

The School Indoor Air Quality rule 410 IAC 33-6-2 requires this report to be posted for 14 days at a conspicuous location inside the school building so that it is accessible to all students, parents, and employees.

Individuals experiencing any health problems should seek medical advice from a physician.

If you have questions, please contact me at 317/682-9030.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Plew". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

RICK PLEW
Industrial Hygienist
Indoor Air Section, Environmental Public Health Division

Enclosure

TABLE 1

Leo Jr/Sr. High School
14600 Amstutz Rd.
Leo, IN 46765

Computed Microbiological Air Sample Results
Taken March 3, 2020

SAMPLE ID	LOCATION	NO. OF OCCUPANTS	RELATIVE HUMIDITY (%)	CARBON DIOXIDE (ppm)	AIR SAMPLED (liters)	FUNGAL COUNT (CFU/M ³)	BACTERIAL COUNT (CFU/M ³)
1	Wrestling Rm	2	32	516	200	0	0
2	Boy's Locker Rm	2	35	657	200	0	5
3	Weight Rm	3	43	951	200	0	0
4	Wrestling Locker Rm	2	32	557	200	0	0
5	Outdoor	-	40	358	200	20	0

Notes:

% -----percent

ppm-----parts per million

CFU/M³—colony forming units per cubic meter of air