

# RESOLUTION

## COMPREHENSIVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY PLAN

**WHEREAS**, poor indoor air quality can contribute to short and long term health issues, including asthma, respiratory tract infection and disease, allergic reactions, headaches, nasal congestion, eye and skin irritations, coughing, sneezing, chronic fatigue, dizziness and nausea and promote the spread of airborne infectious disease and can be particularly harmful to students, teachers, and other staff with asthma and/or allergies; and

**WHEREAS**, poor Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) issues contribute negatively to the image of all Harford County Public Schools (HCPS), and whereas significant IAQ issues have occurred in a number of Harford County Public School buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, poor health in the school community causes increased absenteeism for students, teachers, and other staff in our school buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, poor indoor air quality is exacerbated by inadequate and underfunded maintenance of school buildings including maintenance of the (HVAC) Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems, especially in aged school buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, according to state health officials, no standards and mandates currently exist on mold-based air quality contaminants, and

**WHEREAS**, students, teachers, and other staff deserve a healthy indoor environment that is conducive to learning

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Harford County Council of PTA, Inc. recommends that the Harford County Board of Education convene an Action Team consisting of parents, teachers, administrators, nurses, custodians, facilities management, a certified industrial hygienist and the health department to prepare and implement a Comprehensive Indoor Air Quality Plan in accordance with the EPA's Tools for Schools Kit and guidelines set forth by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienist (ACGIH) to include regular inspection, testing and public reporting within established time frames; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Harford County Council of PTA, Inc. recommends to the Harford County Board of Education that funding for adequate and appropriately trained staff, ongoing training efforts, testing, contaminate removal and all other costs necessary to maintain a schools safe environmental quality be pursued at the local, state and federal level; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Harford County Council of PTA, Inc. pursue local, state and federal legislation on a Comprehensive Indoor Air Quality Plan for schools to include mold and other microbial contaminates.

ADOPTED 11.27.00