

NBSIA Member Services Safety Bulletin

June 2021

CLEANING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES

Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities: Make changes to physical spaces to maintain healthy environments and facilities, including improving ventilation.

Routinely clean high-touch surfaces (such as door knobs and light switches).

Ventilation: Improve ventilation to the extent possible to increase circulation of outdoor air, increase the delivery of clean air, and dilute potential contaminants. This can be achieved through several actions.

- Bring in as much outdoor air as possible.
- Ensure Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) settings are maximizing ventilation.
- Filter and/or clean the air in the school by improving the level of filtration as much as possible.
- Use exhaust fans in restrooms and kitchens.
- Open windows in buses and other transportation, if allowed and if it does not pose a safety risk. Cracking windows open a few inches improves air circulation.

Modify layouts: Adjust layouts in classrooms and other settings to maximize space, such as turning desks to face in the same direction.

Cleaning: Regularly clean high touch surfaces and objects (for example, playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, toilets, drinking fountains) in the schools and on school buses at least daily or between use.

Communal spaces: Close communal use of shared spaces, such as cafeterias, if possible; otherwise, stagger use and clean regularly (for example, daily or as often as needed). Use large spaces like cafeterias, libraries, gyms for academic instruction, to maximize physical distancing.

Food service: Avoid self-serve food or drink options such as hot and cold food bars, salad or condiment bars, and drink stations.

Watersystem: Ensure all water systems and features (for example, sink faucets, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown.

Before students and staff return to school or child-care building that has been closed, look for ways to reduce potential hazards. Flush plumbing (including all sink faucets, water fountains, water bottle fillers, hoses, and showers) to replace all water inside building pipes with fresh water. This can help protect occupants from possible exposure to lead, copper, and Legionella bacteria.



Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html>



Contact Us

(707) 428-1830

www.nbsia.org

MemberServices@nbsia.org