

**School/Facility:** Patuxent Valley Middle School

**Location:** Media Center

**Date of IEQ Report Form:** November 15, 2017

**Date(s) Investigated:** November 15, 2017

**Date of Report:** February 13, 2018

**IEQ Concern:**

An individual reported sensing a paint odor within the media center. The odor was spread to other portions of the building when floor fans were placed within the media center in an effort to dilute the odor.

**IEQ Investigation Process:**

Identify deficiencies that may impact IEQ and/or sources of odor concerns. Typically includes the following depending on the nature of concern, but not limited to:

- interview/questionnaire of concern individual(s)
- inspection above drop ceiling (condition of roof deck, pipe insulation, return air plenum)
- inspection of ventilation system (operation of variable air volume box and outdoor air dampers, check controls, measurements of carbon dioxide, temperature and relative humidity, sources near outdoor air intake, measure return and supply air volume, cleanliness of coils, liner and condensate pan)
- inspection of exterior
- inspection below drop ceiling (housekeeping, sink and floor drain traps, signs of past and present moisture concern via visual and/or moisture meter, mold growth, ensure connection of current and capping of abandoned sanitary vents, odorizers, excessive plants and fabric items, identify potential pathways, and measure volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, and lighting)

**Findings:**

- HCPSS's Construction Office responded to the concern. HCPSS's Office of Environment was not available to investigate. The Office of Environment reviewed the incident by obtaining information provided by the Construction Office.
- The evening prior to the reported concern, contractors were completing punch list items from the recent renovation. A contractor was painting stair handrails within the media center.
- The product (Part A & B) used was Durethane DTM Series 95-3300 by PPG Paints.

**Corrective Actions:**

- Elapsed time and general ventilation dissipated the odor.
- HCPSS Construction Office will be advised for interior non-latex painting (i.e. oil, odorous, epoxy) to take place during extended off hours (i.e. weekend) with the ventilation system operating to avoid the possibility of residual odors for when occupants return.