

January 30, 2018

Mr. Jeff Klenk  
Howard County Public School System (HCPSS)  
10910 Route 108  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: Indoor Air Quality Assessments during Renovations at Swansfield Elementary School  
Project #J16-971 (December 7, 18 and 22, 2017)

Dear Mr. Klenk,

Aria Environmental, Inc. (AE) is pleased to present this report of findings for indoor air quality assessments conducted at Swansfield Elementary School (Swansfield). Jeff Klenk of HCPSS requested AE make frequent visits to Swansfield to monitor indoor air quality that may be affected by the current major renovation of the school. The visits discussed in this report were performed on December 7, 18 and 22, 2017 and included work site observations, and real-time measurements for particles, indoor air quality parameters (temperature, humidity, carbon monoxide (CO) and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These assessments were performed by Tony Schwegmann, Industrial Hygienist, of AE. Presented below are observations and recommendations made based upon conditions readily observed on the reported dates. A building drawing is included as an attachment.

### **Particles**

Particulate matter or PM is the term for a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air. It does not distinguish between the types of particles in the air (e.g., pollen, skin cells, soil, etc.). Particulate matter includes "inhalable coarse particles," with diameters larger than 2.5 micrometers and smaller than 10 micrometers (PM<sub>10</sub>) and "fine particles," with diameters that are 2.5 micrometers and smaller (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). A micrometer is also called a micron and is one millionth of a meter. To put these particle diameters in perspective, the average human hair is about 70 micrometers in diameter – making it 30 times larger than the largest fine particle. Particle loads expected to be a part of the school environment include carpet and clothing fiber, soil tracked in from outside, paper dust and dust and fibers from building materials.

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 62.1–2016 suggests target indoor concentrations for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> of 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. These concentrations are taken from the EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) based on annual arithmetic means deemed acceptable for outdoor air quality. Occupational standards and guidelines for particles are nearly an order of magnitude higher than concentrations typically found in non-occupational settings and are not appropriate for comparison. Particle measurements were taken with an Aerocet 531 particulate monitor. The particle monitor takes a two minute averaged sample of particle concentrations in 5 size fractions (PM<sub>1</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>7</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and total suspended particles (TSP)). Results of particulate monitoring are presented in Tables 1 and 2.

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**Discussion of Particle Results for December 7, 2017**

The PM2.5 particle concentrations ranged from 0 to 1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and PM10 particle concentrations ranged from 3 to 19 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Particle concentrations were below the target concentration in all areas monitored. The building was occupied as usual for a normal school day. Results of particulate monitoring are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1 – Results of Particulate Monitoring Swansfield Elementary School on December 7, 2017**

Location	Time	PM1 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM2.5 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM7 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM10 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	TSP (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Lobby	10:41	0	0	2	4	11
Guidance Counselor Office	10:47	0	0	2	3	20
Pod 139 – Center	10:51	0	0	6	8	23
Pod 144 – Center	10:54	0	0	11	16	46
Pod 159 - Center	10:56	0	0	4	8	27
Gym	11:05	0	1	5	6	19
Outside CR 211	11:00	0	0	14	19	48
Outside	11:11	0	0	1	1	2

Bold-faced results indicate results above target concentrations

**Discussion of Particle Results for December 18, 2017**

The PM2.5 particle concentrations ranged from 1 to 7 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in all areas measured. PM10 particle concentrations ranged from 3 to 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Particle concentrations were below the target concentration in all areas monitored. The building was occupied as usual for a normal school day. Results of particulate monitoring are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2 – Results of Particulate Monitoring Swansfield Elementary School on December 18, 2017**

Location	Time	PM1 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM2.5 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM7 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	PM10 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	TSP (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Lobby	13:42	0	1	3	3	3
Guidance Counselor Office	14:01	1	6	9	9	9
Pod 139 – Center	13:46	0	4	9	9	9
Pod 144 – Center	13:48	1	7	10	10	10
Gym	13:53	1	6	9	9	9
Pod 159 - Center	13:56	1	4	6	6	6
Outside CR 211	13:58	1	5	7	7	7
Outside	14:04	1	6	8	8	8

Bold-faced results indicate results above target concentrations

**Discussion of Particle Results for December 22, 2017**

Particle measurements were not taken during the survey on December 22, 2017 because the particle monitor was out for calibration.

**Indoor Air Quality Measurements**

Industry guidelines or standards for seasonal temperature and humidity ranges for thermal comfort are established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the American Society for Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standard 55-2013. These ranges

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are presented in Table 3. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends maintaining indoor relative humidity below 60% and ideally between 30 and 50%. Low humidity is expected in buildings that do not add humidity during the heating season. The comfort ranges are only set for the Summer and Winter seasons when temperatures are usually consistent. There are no Fall or Spring ranges because these seasons can include both heating and cooling modes of HVAC operation. Carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide measurements are used to assess ventilation system performance. The exhaled breath of building occupants is the main indoor source of carbon dioxide; therefore, the build-up of carbon dioxide indicates inadequate ventilation. Results of temperature, relative humidity, carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide monitoring are presented in Tables 4-6 below.

**Table 3- Acceptable Ranges of Temperature and Relative Humidity in Summer and Winter<sup>a</sup>**

Relative Humidity	Winter Temperature	Summer Temperature
30%	68.5°F – 76.0°F	74.0°F – 80.0°F
40%	68.5°F - 75.5°F	73.5°F – 79.5°F
50%	68.5°F - 74.5°F	73.0°F – 79.0°F
60%	68.0°F - 74.0°F	72.5°F – 78.0°F

<sup>a</sup>adapted from ASHRAE Standard 55-2013

### **Real Time Volatile Organic Compounds Measurements**

Instantaneous measurements for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were collected using a ppbRae 3000 monitor calibrated using isobutylene gas. This instrument is used as a screening tool for VOCs in general with a limit of detection of 1 ppb. VOCs include a variety of chemicals, some of which may cause adverse health effects. Concentrations of many VOCs are generally higher indoors than outdoors. VOCs are emitted by many common products including paints, paint strippers, cleaning supplies, building materials, furnishings, fuels, office equipment and supplies, glues, and permanent markers, as well as cosmetics, perfumes and other personal hygiene products. These products can release organic compounds while being used or stored. It is important to note that the measurements taken are instantaneous and are intended to aid the inspector in detecting potential sources of VOC contamination. A VOC source is suspected when the measured concentration is significantly higher than the outdoor concentration or if a spike in concentration is seen in one location compared to others. Results of VOC monitoring are also presented in Tables 4-6 below.

### **Discussion of IAQ and VOC Measurements for December 7, 2017**

The indoor temperatures for December 7, 2017 ranged from 68.9°F to 72.2°F. Temperature measurements in classrooms and occupied areas of the school were within the recommended comfort ranges. Indoor relative humidity measurements were between 24.5% and 36.1%. Four locations (Lobby, Guidance Counselors Office, Pod 159-Center and the Gym) were below the recommended range of 30 to 60%. Lower than normal relative humidity is expected in the winter season in buildings that do not add humidity to conditioned air.

Indoor carbon dioxide concentrations ranged from 447 to 1,367 ppm within indoor occupied areas. The concentration of concern for carbon dioxide is set by ANSI/ASHRAE standard 62.1 as 700 ppm above outdoor air. On the day of monitoring, the outdoor air concentration of carbon dioxide was 318 ppm; therefore, concentrations were below the target concentration in all areas monitored with exception to the center of pods 139 and 144. The classrooms near the areas of high measurements were not occupied at the time of the survey. Higher than normal concentrations indicate insufficient airflow in these areas. Measurements were made on a normal school day.

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Carbon monoxide is mainly attributed to incomplete combustion. Indoor concentrations of CO ranged from 0.0 to 0.1 ppm in all locations measured and the outdoor concentration was 1.6 ppm. All measurements were below the ASHRAE concentration of concern (9 ppm).

Indoor concentrations of VOCs measured on December 7, 2017 ranged from 0 to 918 ppb in all areas monitored, and the outdoor measurement was 0 ppb. The measurements are considered low and do not indicate any obvious source of VOCs. Results of IAQ and VOC monitoring are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4 – Results of Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Measurements  
at Swansfield Elementary School on December 7, 2017**

Location	Time	Temperature (°F)	Relative Humidity (Rh%)	Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
Lobby	10:41	68.9	<b>29.7</b>	0.0	581	0
Guidance Counselor Office	10:47	69.5	<b>26.9</b>	0.0	447	0
Pod 139 – Center	10:51	71.9	36.1	0.0	<b>1,174</b>	205
Pod 144 – Center	10:54	72.2	34.7	0.0	<b>1,367</b>	62
Pod 159 - Center	10:56	72.0	<b>24.5</b>	0.0	553	0
Gym	11:05	71.6	<b>27.9</b>	0.1	812	918
Outside CR 211	11:00	71.7	31.8	0.0	958	18
Outside	11:11	47.1	24.4	1.6	318	0

Bold-faced indicates results outside of recommended comfort ranges or target concentrations.

**Discussion of IAQ and VOC Measurements for December 18, 2017**

The indoor temperatures for December 18, 2017 ranged from 69.1°F to 72.3°F. Temperature measurements in classrooms and occupied areas of the school were within the recommended comfort ranges. Indoor relative humidity measurements ranged from 32.3% to 35.6%. All were within the recommended range of 30 to 60%.

Carbon dioxide concentrations ranged from 506 to 779 ppm within indoor occupied areas. The concentration of concern for carbon dioxide is set by ANSI/ASHRAE standard 62.1 as 700 ppm above outdoor air. On the day of monitoring, the outdoor air concentration of carbon dioxide was 284 ppm; therefore, concentrations were below the target concentrations in all areas monitored. Measurements were made during a normal school day when the building was fully occupied.

Carbon monoxide is mainly attributed to incomplete combustion. Indoor concentrations of CO were 0.0 ppm in all locations measured and the outdoor concentration was 0.1 ppm. All measurements were below the ASHRAE concentration of concern (9 ppm).

Indoor concentrations of VOCs measured on December 18, 2017 were 0 ppb in all areas monitored with exception to the gym (829 ppb), and the outdoor measurement was 0 ppb. It was indicated that the gym had recently been repainted, resulting in the higher than normal VOC measurement. The measurements are considered low and do not indicate any obvious source of VOCs. Results of IAQ and VOC monitoring are presented in Table 5.

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**Table 5 – Results of Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Measurements  
at Swansfield Elementary School on December 18, 2017**

Location	Time	Temperature (°F)	Relative Humidity (Rh%)	Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
Lobby	13:42	69.1	35.6	0.0	563	0
Guidance Counselor Office	14:01	71.2	32.3	0.0	517	0
Pod 139 – Center	13:46	71.5	34.6	0.0	779	0
Pod 144 – Center	13:48	71.9	33.5	0.0	642	0
Gym	13:53	72.3	34.9	0.0	733	829
Pod 159 - Center	13:56	72.1	32.6	0.0	506	0
Outside CR 211	13:58	70.9	35.3	0.0	553	0
Outside	14:04	62.1	36.2	0.1	284	0

Bold-faced indicates results outside of recommended comfort ranges or target concentrations.

**Discussion of IAQ and VOC Measurements for December 22, 2017**

The indoor temperatures for December 22, 2017 ranged from 68.1°F to 70.8°F. Temperature measurements in classrooms and occupied areas of the school were within the recommended comfort ranges. Indoor relative humidity measurements ranged from 28.1% to 38.4%. Four of the measurements (Pod 139-Center, Pod 159-Center, the Gym and outside Classroom 211) were below the recommended range of 30 to 60%. Lower than normal relative humidity is expected in the winter season in buildings that do not add humidity to conditioned air.

Carbon dioxide concentrations ranged from 468 to 746 ppm within indoor occupied areas. The concentration of concern for carbon dioxide is set by ANSI/ASHRAE standard 62.1 as 700 ppm above outdoor air. On the day of monitoring, the outdoor air concentration of carbon dioxide was 289 ppm; therefore, concentrations were below the target concentrations in all areas monitored. Measurements were made during a normal school day when the building was fully occupied.

Carbon monoxide is mainly attributed to incomplete combustion. Indoor concentrations of CO were 0.0 ppm in all locations measured and the outdoor concentration was 2.4 ppm. All measurements were below the ASHRAE concentration of concern (9 ppm).

Indoor concentrations of VOCs measured on December 22, 2017 ranged from 0 to 69 ppb in all areas measured. The outdoor measurement was 0 ppb. The measurements are considered low and do not indicate any obvious source of VOCs. Results of IAQ and VOC monitoring are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6 – Results of Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Measurements  
at Swansfield Elementary School on December 22, 2017**

Location	Time	Temperature (°F)	Relative Humidity (Rh%)	Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
Lobby	9:34	68.1	38.4	0.0	587	0
Pod 139 – Center	9:38	69.7	<b>28.5</b>	0.0	468	0

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**Table 6 – Results of Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Measurements  
at Swansfield Elementary School on December 22, 2017**

Location	Time	Temperature (°F)	Relative Humidity (Rh%)	Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
Pod 144 – Center	9:40	70.1	30.1	0.0	685	0
Gym	9:42	70.8	<b>29.5</b>	0.0	526	69
Pod 159 - Center	9:44	70.6	<b>28.1</b>	0.0	584	0
Outside CR 211	9:46	70.3	<b>29.6</b>	0.0	746	0
Outside	9:49	43.7	51.2	2.4	289	0

Bold-faced indicates results outside of recommended comfort ranges or target concentrations.

**Conclusions and Recommendations**

Based upon our observations and sampling results on December 7, 18 & 22, 2017 at Swansfield Elementary School, measures are being taken to prevent construction dust and odors from entering the occupied areas of the school. Only a few measurements were outside the recommended indoor air quality comfort ranges during these 3 school visits. The school is fully occupied. Elevated concentrations are expected and are not entirely due to construction activities. The tiled floors were being kept clean of visible dust. Fluctuations of dust and VOC concentrations are influenced by the types of construction activities occurring and also by student and staff activities and are expected to vary over time. A floor plan with measurement locations for the school is attached.

AE will continue to make weekly visits to Swansfield Elementary School as requested. Thank you for choosing Aria Environmental, Inc. for your industrial hygiene consulting needs. Should you have any questions about the information contained herein, please do not hesitate to contact us at 410-549-5774.

Sincerely,  
Aria Environmental, Inc.










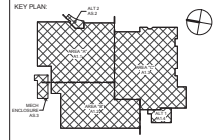
Julie Barth, CIH, CSP, LEED Green Associate

CANOPY ADDITION  
(ADD ALTERNATE 2)

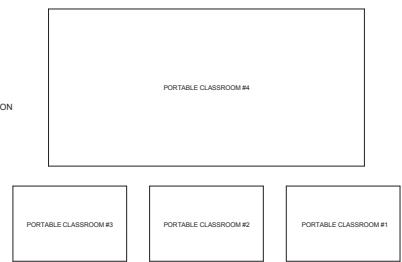
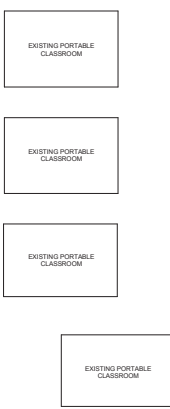
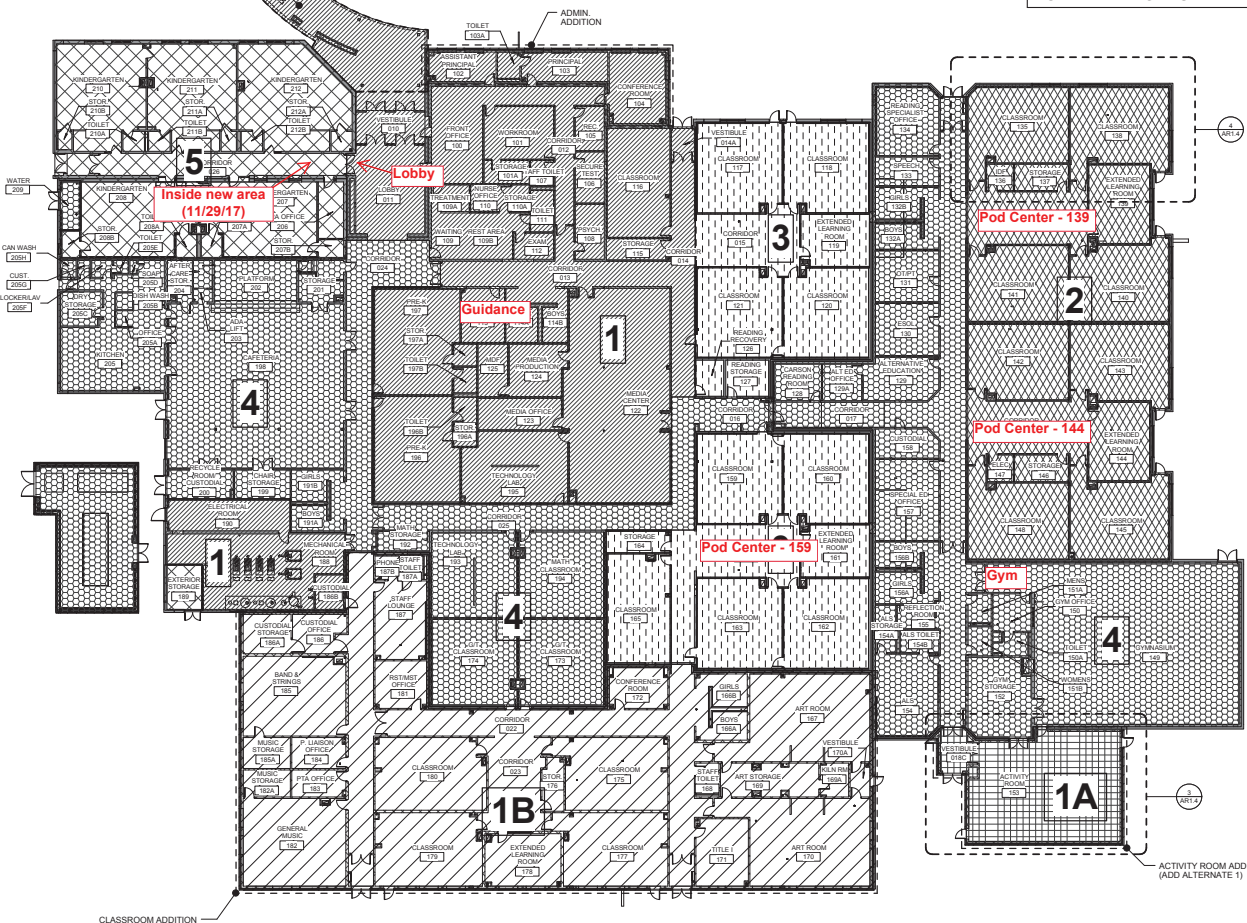
1. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE TEMPORARY WALLS WITH LOCKABLE DOORS TO SEPARATE CONSTRUCTION FROM OCCUPIED AREAS AS NEEDED DURING EVERY PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION.  
2. REFER TO CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE IN SECTION 013000.

GENERAL NOTES


-  PHASE 1: 6/16- 8/16
-  PHASE 1A: 6/16- 12/16  
SEE DETAIL 4AR1.4 FOR TEMPORARY PARTITION LOCATIONS
-  PHASE 1B: 6/16- 8/17
-  PHASE 2: 9/16- 12/16  
SEE DETAIL 3AR1.4 FOR TEMPORARY PARTITION LOCATIONS
-  PHASE 3: 1/17- 5/17
-  PHASE 4: 6/17- 8/17
-  PHASE 5: 9/17- 12/17



KEYNOTES LISTED ON THIS SHEET ARE FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY. REFER TO SHEET 03.1 FOR COMPLETE LIST



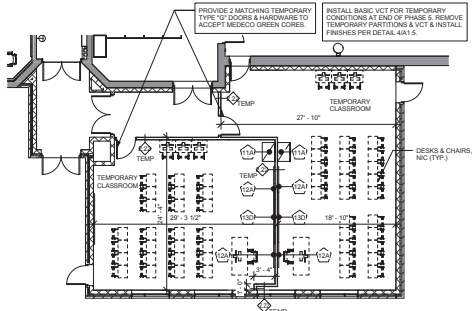
BID DOCUMENTS

 GEORGE WOODS ORGANIZATION 10000 WOODS DRIVE, SUITE 100 NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND 21136	Scale:  Date:  Description:
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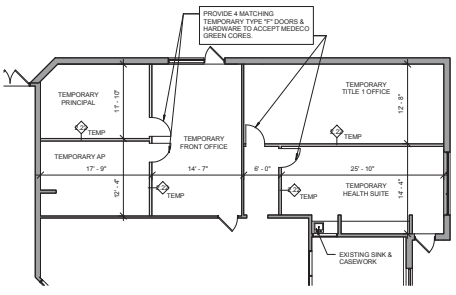
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SWANSFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM			
Job No. 1448 Scale As Indicated Date 01/13/2016 Drawing Title REFERENCE PHASING PLAN	G W O GEORGE WOODS ORGANIZATION 10000 WOODS DRIVE, SUITE 100 NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND 21136	Checked Approved Drawing Number	Sheet 08

SWANSFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM			
Job No. 1448 Scale As Indicated Date 01/13/2016 Drawing Title REFERENCE PHASING PLAN	G W O GEORGE WOODS ORGANIZATION 10000 WOODS DRIVE, SUITE 100 NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND 21136	Checked Approved Drawing Number	Sheet 08

PHASING PLAN  
1/17 - 1/17



PHASE 3-5 TEMPORARY PARTITIONS 1/17-12/17  
1/17 - 1/17



PHASE 1 TEMPORARY PARTITIONS 8/16-10/16  
1/17 - 1/17

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