

Windjammer Environmental LLC 6710 Oxon Hill Road Suite 210 Oxon Hill, MD 20745 (888) 270-8387 info@wjenviro.com

March 1, 2021

Alex Baylor
Environmental Specialist
PGCPS Environmental Safety Office
13306 Old Marlboro Pike
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Alex.baylor@pgcps.org

Re: IAQ and Mold Assessment Report (Retest)

Prince George's County Public Schools

Apple Grove Elementary School

Dear Mr. Baylor,

Windjammer Environmental LLC (Windjammer) was contracted to conduct a visual assessment, measure indoor air quality (IAQ) parameters and sample for mold in a limited number of areas at the Apple Grove Elementary School located at 7400 Bellefield Avenue, Fort Washington, MD. This assessment is intended to check the effectiveness of cleaning activities in areas that were previously observed to have above normal ecology. This assessment was conducted by Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) Damien Hammond SR on February 24, 2021.

### This assessment included:

- Measurement of temperature, relative humidity, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and carbon monoxide (CO)
- Collection of nonviable airborne mold samples; and
- Visual assessment of select areas.

## Methods

A TSI IAQ-Calc Model 7545 was used to measure temperature, relative humidity, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and carbon monoxide (CO).

Air samples for non-viable airborne fungi were collected on Air-O-Cell cassettes using a Zefon Bio-Pump Plus portable sampler calibrated to collect 15 liters of air per minute (lpm). The sampling period for the all samples was five minutes.

Direct read instrumentation used were calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications prior to the start of this assessment.

All samples collected were hand delivered to and analyzed by EMSL of Beltsville, MD. EMSL is accredited by the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) for microbial analysis and participates in the Environmental Microbiology Laboratory Accreditation Program (EMLAP).

# Guidance

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) are the only enforceable regulatory standards for indoor air quality. However, other organizations such as the American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have developed widely accepted consensus standards that can be used to assess the suitability of indoor air quality.

#### **ASHRAE Standards**

62.1-2013 and 55-2013 are consensus standards that outline acceptable practices for the design of ventilation systems in commercial and residential structures. Both documents were developed "to specify minimum ventilation rates and indoor air quality that will be acceptable to human occupants and are intended to minimize the potential for adverse health effects." The standards also consider chemical, physical, and biological contaminants and other factors that impact indoor air quality and affect occupant health and comfort.

ASHRAE 55-2013 recommends temperature and relative humidity ranges that are considered suitable for indoor air quality. Recommended ranges are as follows:

- Temperature be maintained between 67 and 82 degrees Fahrenheit (°F)
- Relative humidity to be maintained below 65%

#### Carbon Dioxide

 $CO_2$  is widely used as a surrogate gas in the assessment of indoor air quality. It is a byproduct of respiration and can be used to determine the effectiveness and/or management of building ventilation systems. Based on ASHRAE recommendations, indoor  $CO_2$  concentrations that are below 1000 parts per million (ppm) or have a differential of less than 700 ppm compared to outside concentrations are considered to be suitable.

For example, if outside CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are measured at 380 ppm, then indoor CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations measured up to 1080 ppm would be considered suitable.

## Carbon Monoxide

OSHA has established a PEL for CO of 35 ppm over a time weighted average (TWA) of 8 hours and a ceiling CO exposure limit of 200 ppm in a five-minute period. ASHARE has adopted the EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for CO of 9 ppm when evaluating indoor air quality. In nonindustrial settings, the NAAQS standard is commonly used to assess the suitability of IAQ.

# Nonviable Airborne Fungi (Mold)

There are no set regulatory limits established for acceptable airborne fungi levels. However, indoor levels within schools and offices are generally lower than outdoor levels. The distribution of airborne species of fungi found in indoor air is expected to be similar in proportion to outside distributions. The type and concentrations of the airborne microorganisms can be used to determine if there is a potential hazard to occupants which requires action.

# **Findings**

## **Indoor Air Quality**

Indoor air quality measurements collected were satisfactory with respect to temperature, relative humidity, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and carbon monoxide (CO). Recorded indoor air quality results are summarized in the following Table.

Table 1 Indoor Air Quality Measurement Summary (Measurements Recorded on February 24, 2021)								
Measurement Location	Temperature Relative (°F) Humidity (%)		CO₂ (ppm)	CO (ppm)				
Outside*	37.9	58.3	466	0.0				
Room 16*	66.7	34.9	472	0.0				
Room 13*	68.0	30.7	455	0.0				

ppm – parts per million

## Non-viable Airborne Fungi Sampling

Measured total indoor airborne fungi concentrations were determined to have normal ecology when compared to measured outdoor fungi concentrations. A complete laboratory analysis report is available for viewing in Attachment A.

#### Visual Assessment

A walk-through of the hallways and a limited number of classrooms and public areas was carried out. No bathrooms, staff offices, mechanical rooms, kitchen areas or storage areas were visited. The school was not session at the time of the inspection.

The school as determined to be in fair condition and free of any unexpected odors. Except as noted, floors, walls and ceiling tiles observed were in acceptable condition. The housekeeping was acceptable.

The following areas for further investigation or improvement were noted:

• Classrooms 17, 10, 8, 7, 3, 15, 6, 4, and the main office – these areas were reported to have water leaks in exterior windows during rain events. These areas were not actively leaking during the assessment.

<sup>\* -</sup> spore-trap sample

## **Conclusions & Recommendations**

Indoor air quality spore trap measurements collected inside the building indicated normal to substantially above normal ecologies. Please consider the following improvement actions:

- Repair exterior windows
- Identify the cause of any staining on ceiling tiles and fix

At this time, no other recommendations are provided.

Windjammer appreciates the opportunity to provide this indoor air quality assessment. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at (888) 270 - 8387.

Best regards,

Damien Hammond Sr, MS, CSP, CIH President

Attachment A: Microbial Laboratory Report (Air)

# **Attachment A**



Attention: Damien Hammond

**EMSL Order:** 192101689 **Customer ID:** WJEN42

Customer PO: Project ID:

Phone: (888) 270-8387

Fax:

Collected Date: 02/24/2021

Received Date: 02/25/2021 09:48 AM

**Analyzed Date:** 02/26/2021

Project: PG COUNTY SCHOOLS 2021 - APPLE GROVE

Windjammer Environmental

National Harbor, MD 20745

6710 Oxon Hill Rd

Test Report:Air-O-Cell(™) Analysis of Fungal Spores & Particulates by Optical Microscopy (Methods MICRO-SOP-201, ASTM D7391)

Lab Sample Number: Client Sample ID: Volume (L): Sample Location:	192101689-0001 022421-1 75 OUTSIDE			ulates by Optical Microscopy (Methods MICR 192101689-0002 022421-2 75 RM 13			192101689-0003 022421-3 75 RM 16			
Spore Types	Raw Count	Count/M³ % of Total		Raw Count Count/M³		% of Total	Raw Count	Count/M³	% of Total	
Alternaria (Ulocladium)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ascospores	30	1300	3.2	1	40	0.2	2	90	0.9	
Aspergillus/Penicillium	1	40	0.1	1	40	0.2	4	200	2	
Basidiospores	886	38700	96.3	367	16000	99.5	222	9690	95.2	
Bipolaris++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chaetomium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cladosporium	2	90	0.2	-	-	-	4	200	2	
Curvularia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Epicoccum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Fusarium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ganoderma	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Myxomycetes++	1	40	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pithomyces++	1*	10*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Rust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Scopulariopsis/Microascus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Stachybotrys/Memnoniella	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Unidentifiable Spores	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Zygomycetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Fungi	921	40180	100	369	16080	100	232	10180	100	
Hyphal Fragment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Insect Fragment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pollen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Analyt. Sensitivity 600x	-	44	-	-	44	-	-	44	-	
Analyt. Sensitivity 300x	-	13*	-	-	13*	-	-	13*	-	
Skin Fragments (1-4)	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	
Fibrous Particulate (1-4)	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	
Background (1-5)	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	

++ Includes other spores with similar morphology; see EMSL's fungal glossary for each specific category.

No discernable field blank was submitted with this group of samples.

Samples analyzed by EMSL Analytical, Inc. Beltsville, MD AIHA-LAP, LLC-EMLAP Accredited #102891



Abubakar Barry, Microbiology Laboratory Manager or other Approved Signatory

EMSL maintains liability limited to cost of analysis. Interpretation and use of test results are the responsibility of the client. This report relates only to the samples reported above, and may not be reproduced, except in full, without written approval by EMSL. EMSL bears no responsibility for sample collection activities or analytical method limitations. The report reflects the samples as received. Results are generated from the field sampling data (sampling volumes and areas, locations, etc.) provided by the client on the Chain of Custody. Samples are within quality control criteria and met method specifications unless otherwise noted. High levels of background particulates can obscure spores and other particulates, leading to underestimation. Background levels of 5 indicate an overloading of background particulates, prohibiting accurate detection and quantification. Present = Spores detected on overloaded samples. Results are not blank corrected unless otherwise noted. The detection limit is equal to one fungal spore, structure, pollen, fiber particle or insect fragment. "\*" Denotes particles found at 300X. "." Denotes not detected. Due to method stopping rules, raw counts in excess of 100 are extrapolated based on the percentage analyzed.

Initial report from: 02/26/2021 03:47 PM

Industríal Hygiene

EMSL Order Number (Lab Use Only): Chain of Custody

200 Route 130 North

EMSL Analytical, Inc.

Cinnamínson, NJ 08077 PHONE: **1-800-220-3675** FAX: **(856) 786-5974** 

U.S. State where Samples Collected: MD Zip/Postal Code: 20745 Client ID #: BIII TO COMPANY: WINDJAMMER ENVIRONMENT Ω State/Province: Fax: Windjammer Environmental Sampled By (Signature): 6710 Oxon Hill Rd STE 210 Email Results To: Hammond@wjenviro.com City: National Harbor Phone: 8882708387 Attention To: Street: Purchase Order: 01699 Zip/Postal Code: 20745 WINDJAMMER ENVIRONMENTAL LLC Date of Shipment: Windjammer Environmental Apple Grove State/Province: MD Street: 6710 Oxon Hill Rd STE 210 Project Name: PG COunty Schools 2021 ŝ Report To Contact Name: # Samples in Shipment: City: National Harbor Phone: 8882708387 Company Name:

Media Type:

Turnaround Time (TAT) - Please Check: If No Selection Made, Standard 2 Week TAT Will Apply

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Page 1 Of 1														

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