

December 13, 2021

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Dear Eastern Parent Teacher Organization

We are requesting air purifiers for each classroom at Eastern Elementary to support the health and well-being of students and staff.

Each air purifier comes at a reasonable cost of \$150. In addition to the benefits of a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter for indoor allergens and asthma, there is added benefit of an air purifier to support added protection against COVID-19<sup>1</sup>. As we are learning more about the COVID-19 virus and ways to mitigate its spread, emerging data has brought forth additional measures and recommendations such as universal masking, vaccinations and increased ventilation. Increasing ventilation is key in neutralizing SARS-CoV-2, as studies have demonstrated that the virus can remain viable and infectious in aerosols for hours and on surfaces for up to days<sup>2</sup>. Simple solutions have been recommended by the CDC such as opening windows however with the upcoming winter months and drop in temperatures this solution is less of an option in our Northern Michigan classrooms<sup>3</sup>. Therefore, we would like to propose buying an air filter for each classroom that will aid in the critical role of ventilation. The proposed air filters are relatively inexpensive and are capable of catching particles that contain coronaviruses.<sup>4</sup>

Expense	Unit	# of Units	Cost	Total per Item
Air Purifier	Per Classroom	13 (2 packs)**	\$285.53	\$3711.89
Air Filter*	Per Air Purifier	26**	\$81.40	\$2116.40
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$5828.29</b>

\*Note Air Filters are 2 per pack to replace 2 per unit every 3-4 months per manufacturer. Given the seasonal weather, likely only 1 replacement will be needed per unit for 2022 school year

\*\*Estimates are based on # of classrooms at Eastern Elementary

Thank you for your consideration and review of this proposal that we believe will support the health and well-being of our staff and students.

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<sup>1</sup> Thompson, Tosin (2021). Real-world data show that filters clean COVID-causing virus from air. *Nature*, <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02669-2>

<sup>2</sup> Smith LE, Potts HW, Amlôt R, Fear NT, Michie S, Rubin GJ. COVID-19 and Ventilation in the Home; Investigating Peoples' Perceptions and Self-Reported Behaviour (the COVID-19 Rapid Survey of Adherence to Interventions and Responses [CORSAIR] Study). *Environ Health Insights*. 2021 May 14;15:11786302211015588. doi: 10.1177/11786302211015588. PMID: 34035649; PMCID: PMC8127756.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>

<sup>4</sup> Martineau, Kim (2021). Do HEPA Filters Really Catch Coronavirus Particles? *Columbia News*, <https://news.columbia.edu/news/do-hepa-filters-really-catch-coronavirus-particles>