Asthma-Friendly Schools Initiative Toolkit Provide a Healthy Learning Environment



Sample School Policy Managing Student's Exposure to Outdoor Air Pollution

Monitoring Ozone Levels:

The school district is responsible for monitoring and disseminating to the schools the air pollution information/forecast. This information will be gathered daily from (the media, local air pollution control agency, health department, etc.) and, when there is elevated air pollution, disseminated to each school principal via (phone, email, and fax).

Reducing Student Exposure:

Decisions for reducing exposure to air pollution will be based on individual student risk. Students at highest risk (including upper elementary and middle school students, students with respiratory diseases, and sports or activities that require heavy exertion for extended periods of time) will be protected.

On **Orange Days**, the school will be aware and monitor for individual symptoms. Students with a history of reactions to ozone exposure (often 24 hours after exposure) will be encouraged to minimize their exposure, via reduced exertion and/or duration.

On **Red Days**, the school will limit exposure for all students to one hour at heavy exertion levels (this includes sports that require high intensity workouts for long periods: basketball, soccer, running). Potential solutions to limit exposure include (but are not limited to):

- 1) Having practice/games inside
- 2) Having practice/games early in the day before ozone levels rise
- 3) Rotating players often and having breaks
- 4) Lowering exertion during practice (examples include skill building versus endurance training)