

September 2, 2022

Dear Ms. Gilfoy
Via Email: xxxxxx@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Gilfoy:

Your letters of August 9th and 25th, 2022, were presented at the Board meeting on August 31, 2022. At the meeting the Board directed that staff and the Board Chair provide a response to your concerns.

Firstly, thank you for the email and your commitment to the health and safety of your child and students in the District more broadly. As information, the District continues to apply elevated air flow as provided by the Province and the BCCDC in our mechanical ventilation systems as well as MERV 13 air filtration in all of our facilities except for one. In the facility without full mechanical ventilation we have continued the use of classroom based portable air filtration set up by our health and safety department. Moreover, we will have that facility upgraded to mechanical ventilation by January (depending on supply chain issues).

Further, we appreciate you sharing the concept of independently provided air filters, but our health and safety department has indicated that they are not actually not permitted by the current Provincial Communicable Disease Guidelines for School K-12 School Settings (Page 9) "When using air conditioners and fans in ventilated spaces, air should be moved from high places to lower places instead of blowing air directly from one person's breathing zone to another's." The systems being used by schools are designed, operated and maintained as per the standards referred to in the COVID19 guidance documents and includes MERV 13 filtration and we are hesitant to allow systems that may interfere with their operation. We do note that NLPS can conduct an indoor air quality assessment if there is a concern at a specific location.

Again, we appreciate your letter and hopefully you find this information informative and that it addresses some of your concerns.

Sincerely,



Mark Walsh
Secretary-Treasurer
Mark.Walsh@sd68.bc.ca



Charlene McKay
Board Chair
Charlene.McKay@sd68.bc.ca

From: [Karen Matthews](#)
To: [Karen Matthews](#)
Subject: FW: Sept and on
Date: August 23, 2022 8:12:34 AM

From: Louise Gilfoy <>
Sent: August 9, 2022 11:34 PM
To: Bill Robinson <Bill.Robinson@sd68.bc.ca>; Chantel O'neill <Chantel.Oneill@sd68.bc.ca>; Charlene Mckay <Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca>; Elaine Wilkinson <Elaine.Wilkinson@sd68.bc.ca>; Greg Keller <Greg.Keller@sd68.bc.ca>; Jessica Stanley <Jessica.Stanley@sd68.bc.ca>; Stephanie Higginson <Stephanie.Higginson@sd68.bc.ca>; Tania Brzovic <Tania.Brzovic@sd68.bc.ca>
Subject: Sept and on

CAUTION: External Message

Last year I was told I had to remove the portable hepa air purifier from my son's class. Then the antimask mandate came in. My kids are the only ones who wear masks now. Bonnie Henry finally admitted that COVID is in text airborne (something engineers and non denialists have known for years).

Now I see our PHO totally falsely claiming at monkeypox is no biggie and it's not painful. This is absolutely not true.

What is the school district planning to do for the upcoming school year to protect staff and kids from monkeypox and from Covid?

Louise Gilfoy

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From: Karen Matthews
To: Karen Matthews
Subject: L Gilfoy Hepa air purifiers
Date: August 25, 2022 9:27:08 AM

From: Louise Gilfoy <>

Sent: August 25, 2022 7:10 AM

To: Bill Robinson <Bill.Robinson@sd68.bc.ca>; Chantel O'neill <Chantel.Oneill@sd68.bc.ca>; Charlene Mckay <Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca>; Elaine Wilkinson <Elaine.Wilkinson@sd68.bc.ca>; Greg Keller <Greg.Keller@sd68.bc.ca>; Jessica Stanley <Jessica.Stanley@sd68.bc.ca>; Stephanie Higginson <Stephanie.Higginson@sd68.bc.ca>; Tania Brzovic <Tania.Brzovic@sd68.bc.ca>

Subject: Hepa air purifiers

CAUTION: External Message

Hi there,

Last year I was told to remove my hepa air purifier from my son's classroom because portable purifiers don't have board approval.

I sent my kids with my CO2 monitor to school so we could see what different scenarios caused numbers to rise. It regularly increased above safe levels in the class, prompting my son to request doors and windows be opened.

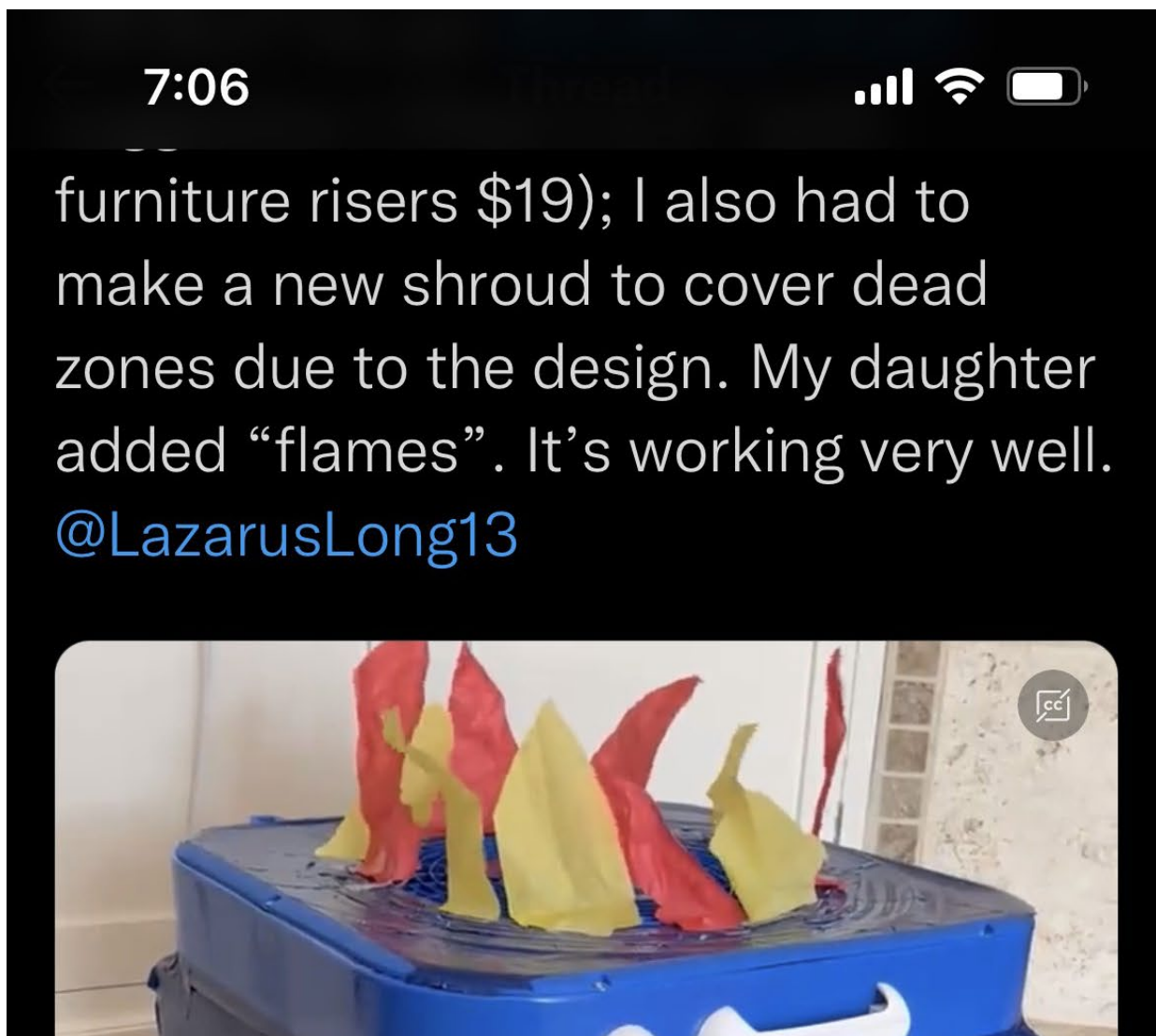
Having high numbers of CO2 indicate the level in a classroom of exhalation in the air. COVID is airborne this, it's an indicator of the risk of Covid being in the air. Now with no mask mandate, it is going to be an extremely difficult fall and September. Researcher Tara Moriarty yesterday found that 6-8% of the total workforce in Canada was off last week due to COVID. My kids will be the only ones in masks (vflex n95s) just like last year.

What extra steps is the district taking to protect kids and workers? Will you allow me to put in a purifier into my kids classrooms? There are ones that are DIY that are simply a box fan and MERV 13 filters. I would like to put one in each of my kids classrooms. Will you allow me to put a box fan in my kids classrooms?

<https://cleanaircrew.org/ufaq/gallery-of-corsi-rosenthal-boxes-built-by-regular-people/>

Attached is a one-filter example of the CR air filter. Very cheap and effective at cleaning the air.

Louise Gilfoy





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