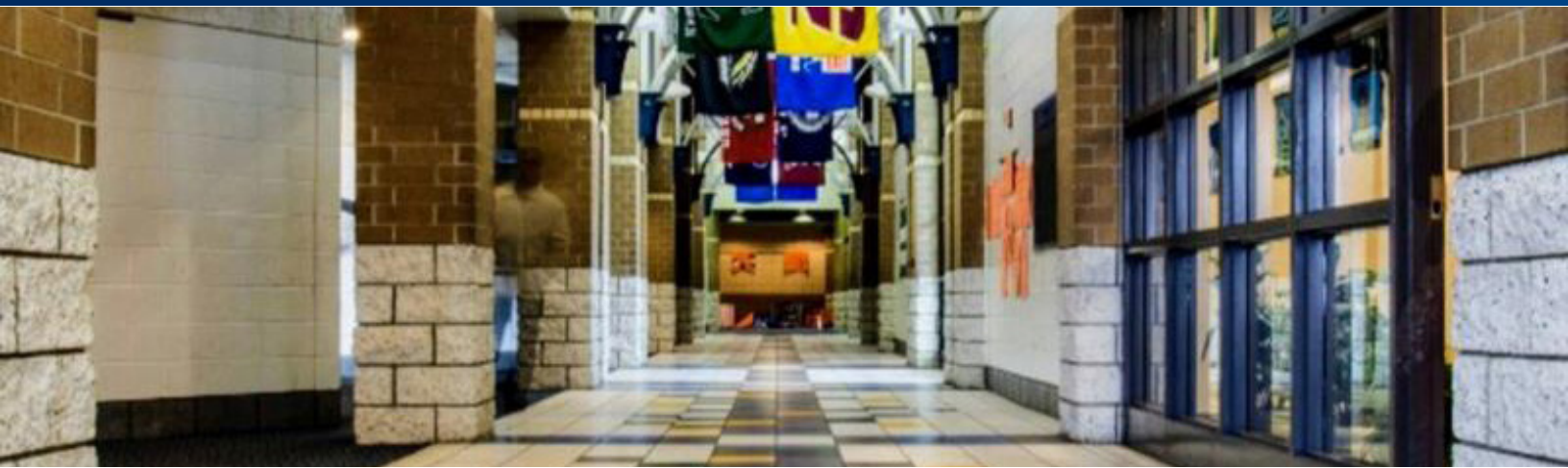


Ecorse Public Schools

Federal relief funds allow the district to make critical clean air updates while retaining capital



A healthy K-12 learning environment has been proven to support occupant focus, productivity, academic performance and overall community wellness.

But with district budgets steadily tightening over the past decade, clean air initiatives have often been placed on the backburner. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, district leaders needed to make previously out-of-budget clean air updates to not only help them safely reopen but support healthy outcomes for years to come.

Located just outside of Detroit, MI, Ecorse Public Schools experienced this firsthand. A partner since 2016, Johnson Controls had worked with the district under a \$3.1M performance contract to implement LED lighting and HVAC upgrades throughout the

district's facilities. The contract included a 10-year planned service agreement, and over the next five years Johnson Controls developed a trusted relationship with the district.

During this period, the COVID-19 pandemic brought on a new, increased focus on clean air in K-12 environments. Like schools across the country, Ecorse Public Schools had to update their facilities to welcome back students and faculty safely. With federal relief funding available, and after thoughtfully evaluating their options, district leaders were ready to work with Johnson Controls to implement the clean

air solutions that had previously been out of reach.

Advanced filtration and automation solutions provide localized clean air

With funding secured, Johnson Controls experts began working to implement \$1.7M in new solutions quickly. Across four buildings – elementary, middle and high schools as well as the administrative center – Johnson Controls implemented 123 IsoClean® filtration units, six rooftop unit replacements and upgraded the existing Metasys® system to Metasys 11.

Case study



"Work with a partner that you trust to help you act strategically. Your students, staff and their families will appreciate seeing the tangible updates you're making to put their health first."

*-Dr. Josha Talison,
Superintendent*

Ralph J. Bunche Elementary
Ecorse Public Schools, MI

Each asset and solution were chosen to meet the school district's unique needs. The IsoClean® filtration units allow the schools to address clean air on a localized, room-by-room basis. In a large building, air handling units can be hundreds of feet away from the actual air distribution point, potentially affecting the indoor air quality (IAQ). With every classroom equipped with an IsoClean® unit, students and faculty gain the sense of security that the space they are working in has a customized, highly effective solution that they can see working. By integrating all IsoClean® filtration units into the upgraded Metasys® system through BERT® plug load monitors, school administrators gain an advanced level of control, allowing them to schedule operation according to demand.

The implementation process was carried out strategically to ensure learning remained uninterrupted. As a partner to Ecorse Public Schools for over five years, Johnson Controls local experts had gained a deep understanding of the district's facilities and needs, allowing them to work discreetly around each school's differing schedules.

Healthy K-12 buildings support wellness throughout the Ecorse community

With the new solutions in place, students, faculty and the surrounding community gain the peace of mind that the district is putting health first and putting federal funds to good use. Teachers have already shared the health benefits they've experienced as a result of the new filtration units. The upgraded Metasys® system optimizes the new units by automating performance, enabling the district to avoid the financial and environmental costs of operating the units when spaces are not in use. The ten-year lifecycle of the IsoClean® units also provide a cost-effective, resilient and sustainable solution.

"This was one of the few times in education that we didn't have all the answers, so we sought out experts who could give us those answers and provide clean air guidance," said Dr. Josha Talison, superintendent at Ecorse Public Schools. "My advice to district leaders facing similar challenges is to take your time to find the

right solution that meets your needs. Work with a partner that you trust to help you act strategically. Your students, staff and their families will appreciate seeing the tangible updates you're making to put their health first."

By leveraging federal relief funds, Ecorse Public Schools were empowered to make much-needed updates without diverting from their budget. The implementations and Johnson Controls continued service agreement will enhance student productivity and academic achievement and support the district's healthy initiative as it continues to navigate the pandemic and beyond.

To learn more about how Johnson Controls supports healthy outcomes in K-12 schools, visit:

[www.johnsoncontrols.com/
industries/k-12-education](http://www.johnsoncontrols.com/industries/k-12-education).

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