

Good morning Rescue families,

The safety and well-being of our students and staff is always our highest priority, so I want to take a quick moment to let everyone know about the protocols we use when:

- the air outside becomes unhealthy
- the temperature exceeds 95 degrees

Air Quality

To begin, we monitor the air quality throughout each day using [PurpleAir.com](https://purpleair.com). This system is widely used by schools and sports leagues in our county, and we are fortunate to have sensors throughout our community in various locations such as:

- Promontory Park
- Marina Village
- Waterford
- Franciscan Village
- Oak Tree Village
- Governor's Village
- Saint Andrews Village
- Highland Village
- Arroyo Vista
- Upper Serrano
- Bridlewood Canyon
- Green Valley Rd/Hastings Drive (near Rescue Elementary)

These multiple locations in our school district allow us to get very accurate, localized readings. When the [Air Quality Index \(AQI\)](#) rises above 100, which is the lower limit for the unhealthy range, we limit strenuous outdoor activities. When the [Air Quality Index \(AQI\)](#) rises above 150, we move activities including PE, recess, and lunch indoors. We also cancel after school sports or move them indoors when possible. Our site principals monitor the AQI frequently and make decisions alerting staff and students with any changes that need to be made.

As a side note the Rescue Union School District has upgraded all HVAC units over the past two years to include high quality MERV filters. Lastly, we have ionization units installed in every HVAC blower making dust and smoke particles easier to trap with our filters. In short, our indoor air quality is quite good, even when the Air Quality Index outside is very high.

High Temperatures

When the outside temperature exceeds **95° F** Rescue USD implements the following protocols:

Elementary schools

- strenuous outside PE activities are limited in duration or modified as necessary for all students. This is especially important for those who may be particularly susceptible to health risks.

- lunch is moved indoors or to shaded areas and recess will be modified for all students.
- Note: If the temperature exceeds **100° F**, outdoor games and outdoor practices will be postponed, canceled or moved indoors

Middle schools

- strenuous outside PE activities are limited in duration or modified as necessary for all students. This is especially important for those who may be particularly susceptible to health risks.
- Note: If the temperature exceeds **100° F**, outdoor games and outdoor practices will be postponed, canceled or moved indoors

If you have questions about air quality and high temperature safety protocols, or if your child has individual needs that we can accommodate, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help! Thanks, and have a great day!

Here is to a great 2023-2024 school year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Shoemaker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" being more prominent than the last name "Shoemaker".

Jim Shoemaker
Superintendent
Rescue Union School District