

## AIR POLLUTION POLICY

**PURPOSE** - YHIS believes it is important to consider the physical health of the students and staff. We recognize there can be man-made and natural factors that reduce the quality of the air and increase the risk for respiratory problems.

**RATIONALE** - Scientific evidence suggests that the biggest threat to health comes from particle pollution. Particle pollution, especially fine particles such as those found in smoke, haze, or dust, contain microscopic solid or liquid droplets that can imbed deep into the lungs causing serious health problems to the respiratory and circulatory systems. Children and teenagers are more susceptible to complications because their lungs are still developing and the volume of air inhaled per kilogram is greater than that of an adult. YHIS is committed to providing a safe environment for all of our students and staff. As such, we have a concrete policy to balance the health and well-being of our students with their need for physical activity and play time throughout the school day.

The following websites monitor and post hourly updates of the amount of Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), and Particulate Matter of 2.5 micrograms (PM<sub>2.5</sub>): [www.cnemc.cn](http://www.cnemc.cn); [www.aqicn.info/?city=yantai](http://www.aqicn.info/?city=yantai). Based on this information, the city is given an index known as the Air Quality Index (AQI). The AQI is used to determine how clean or polluted the air is, and the associated health effects. The higher the AQI, the higher the air pollution. The AQI is the standard that is used by YHIS to determine the quality and the safety of the environment for activities such as PE, recess, sporting events, and field trips.

**POLICY** - AQI levels will be monitored by the school each day, and staff are regularly alerted to the AQI. The following applies to all grades and subject areas:

Color	AQI	Air Pollution Level	Activity Modification
Green	0-50	Good	No change in activities
Yellow	51-100	Moderate	No change in activities
Orange	101-150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups	No change in recess activities. Modifications to PE activities for sensitive students.
Red	151-200	Unhealthy	Elementary PE: indoors After-School Activities: indoors Secondary PE: modified if outdoors
Purple	201-250	Very unhealthy	Elementary PE: indoors After-School Activities: indoors or cancelled Secondary PE: modified if outdoors
Navy	251-300	Very unhealthy	Elementary Recess/PE: indoors After-School Activities: indoors or cancelled Secondary PE: indoors Secondary Athletics: indoors or cancelled
Brown	301+	Hazardous	No outdoor activities of any kind Elementary & secondary activities: indoors Secondary Athletics: indoors or cancelled

*Updated September 24, 2019*