



Dear Principal (Building Manager)

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University (NAU) serves tribal nations to protect natural resources and to provide educational programs. One program is the Environmental Education Outreach Program (EEOP). This program provides services to educators and students. One of the current projects of EEOP is to work with teachers and students to conduct an Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Building Assessment of their school building. There are three key components of the IAQ project, including the following:

- Science education (Students learn basic scientific principles about air and air pollution.)
- Science (Students are doing science by taking basic scientific measurements on air quality and interpreting the information collected.)
- Student learning and health (Students will make recommendations that could improve the health of all building occupants and improve the conditions for learning.).

The IAQ Building Assessment involves evaluating the building in terms of indoor environmental conditions that have potential impacts on occupant health, safety, comfort, performance, and quality of life. The teachers and students will prepare a report as part of the building assessment. This report may propose basic recommendations to upgrade current practices, as well as suggest modification and/or renovations to the building that will improve the indoor environment. The recommendations are intended as a guide to improve the indoor environment to a basic “good practice” level.

Students and teachers will be using equipment such as a CO₂ monitor (ppm), a CO monitor, portable microscope, tracer smoke, temperature, radon, and air velocity instruments. The students and teachers may also do a carpet evaluation using a vacuum dust collection protocol.

Data collected by students and teachers will be reported directly to you as the building manager. The information obtained during the IAQ Building Assessment is for school use only, not for public dissemination. The EEOP staff wants to work with your teachers, students and staff to improve student health and learning. This is a voluntary program with no regulatory authority. Data from the assessment is not reported to the USEPA or any other regulatory agency. Any future references to the assessment by the EEOP staff will not include your school name or location.

Results from student studies should be considered preliminary. You may want to conduct additional studies before making costly changes in your building. We look forward to working with your teachers, students, and staff. If you have any questions about the process or outcomes, please contact us at 928 523 1275 or mansel.nelson@nau.edu.

Sincerely,

Mansel A. Nelson
Program Coordinator