Poor Indoor air quality (IAQ) is known to lead to loss of productivity in industrial and office settings and school classrooms. The EPA reports that one half of our nation's 115,000 schools have problems linked to poor Indoor Air Quality (IAQ). The EPA further reports that IAQ can reduce a person's ability to perform mental tasks requiring concentration, calculation or memory

IAQ is affected by various factors, one being air pollutants, such as formaldehyde, phenol, ozone, hexane, and nitrogen oxides that "outgas" these chemicals. These toxins are in cosmetics, cleaning products, magic markers, copy machine inks and toners, antibacterial soaps, paper towels, permapress clothes, laundry detergents, laminated furniture, and carpets.

In addition, there is a rising level of understanding, on the part of this scientific community, that there is a highly complex and intricate relationship between adverse physical classroom conditions such as poor (IAQ) and adverse student behaviors and cognitive dysfunction. Such negative behaviors, long considered volitional or intentional by the students, are now becoming recognized by scientists as chemically induced by indoor air pollutants creating central nervous system neurotoxicity and neurotoxicencephalopathy, meaning dysfunction to the central nervous system and brain that interferes with cognition, achievement, and behavior. Reducing the sources of these indoor air pollutants in schools, homes and offices is a beginning step to improving productivity, health, and attendance.

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