

## Guidelines for Outside Activities in Times of Poor Air Quality

When determining precautions to take during poor air quality conditions Walla Walla Public Schools generally follows guidelines established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Center for Disease Control and Protection (CDC), and the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Walla Walla Public Schools administration and staff will confer with [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov) and the Air Quality Index (AQI) to help guide their decision making around outside activities such as recess, physical education, and afterschool activities. In addition, consultation with the School District Nurse, Washington's Air Monitoring Network, local health agencies, and other resources may be considered.

### General Procedures:

- (Morning of): The superintendent or his/her designee will announce accommodations or modifications for outdoor/indoor activities for the school day prior to the start of school. This will be announced via email to all staff in addition to other social media communications.
- (Afternoon/Afterschool Activities): By midday, when feasible, the District Athletic and Activities Director or his/her designee will announce accommodations or modifications for all after-school district-directed outdoor activities. Coordination with WIAA, the Mid-Columbia Conference, and other governing activity associations may result in relocated contests, alternative practice areas, and canceling of specific practices and/or events. This will be announced via email to all staff in addition to other social media communications.

### General Guidelines:

- When outside air quality conditions reach what is deemed "unhealthy" levels, the district will normally move all outside physical activities indoors.
- When prolonged outside poor air quality conditions are experienced, indoor air quality may also be affected. Supervising adults will initiate appropriate modifications to the activity levels indoors on a site-specific basis due to varying levels of building condition and age of indoor air handling units.

Air Quality Index	Outdoor Activity Guidance
 green GOOD	Great day to be active outside!
 yellow MODERATE	Good day to be active outside! Students who are unusually sensitive to air pollution could have symptoms.
 orange UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS	It's OK to be active outside, especially for <b>short activities</b> such as recess and physical education (PE). For <b>longer activities</b> such as athletic practice, take more breaks and do less intense activities. Watch for symptoms and take action as needed. Students with asthma should follow their asthma action plans and keep their quick-relief medicine handy.
 red UNHEALTHY	For <b>all outdoor activities</b> , take more breaks and do less intense activities. Consider moving <b>longer or more intense activities</b> indoors or rescheduling them to another day or time. Watch for symptoms and take action as needed. Students with asthma should follow their asthma action plans and keep their quick-relief medicine handy.
 purple VERY UNHEALTHY	Move <b>all activities</b> indoors or reschedule them to another day.