

**School/Facility:** Oakland Mills Middle School  
**Location:** Room 78  
**Date of IEQ Report Form:** November 13, 2017 (email correspondence)  
**Date(s) Investigated:** November 21, 2017  
**Date of Report:** February 14, 2018

**IEQ Concern:**

An individual reported large white particles coming out of the ductwork / one supply air diffuser. The individual thought their general health symptom was related to the incident.

**IEQ Investigation Process:**

Identify deficiencies that may impact IEQ and/or sources of odor concerns. Typically includes the following depending on the nature of concern, but not limited to:

- interview/questionnaire of concern individual(s)
- inspection above drop ceiling (condition of roof deck, pipe insulation, return air plenum)
- inspection of ventilation system (operation of variable air volume box and outdoor air dampers, check controls, measurements of carbon dioxide, temperature and relative humidity, sources near outdoor air intake, measure return and supply air volume, cleanliness of coils, liner and condensate pan)
- inspection of exterior
- inspection below drop ceiling (housekeeping, sink and floor drain traps, signs of past and present moisture concern via visual and/or moisture meter, mold growth, ensure connection of current and capping of abandoned sanitary vents, odorizers, excessive plants and fabric items, identify potential pathways, and measure volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, and lighting)

**Findings:**

- The flex duct connected to the supply air diffuser in question was visibly clean and no large white particles were observed.
- The backside of the air diffuser did not show any signs relating to the concern.
- The supply air diffuser in question is immediately after the room's variable air volume (VAV) box. The VAV's interior and coil (reheat) were in good condition and no white particles were observed.
- No work was performed on the ventilation system on the day of the incident.
- There were no other reports of rooms served by the same ventilation unit experiencing a discharge of white particles.
- Although not likely related to the concern, the fan belt to the ventilation unit serving that zone of the school was loose.

**Corrective Actions:**

- Work order 51765 - Building Services replaced the ventilation unit's fan belt on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- If this occurs again, the individual is to immediately contact the Office of Environment. If available, personnel from the Office of Environment will immediately respond to investigate.