



St. James-Assiniboia School Division

Great Schools for Growing and Learning

Statement from Division Administration on Heat

June 6, 2023

Air conditioning is a priority in our Division. All schools in SJASD are equipped with air conditioning. While most are currently operating, a small number of schools are having their A/C units repaired or proactively replaced as part of a planned maintenance schedule.

School staff with partial or inoperative units are taking the following precautions to mitigate the heat:

- Closing blinds and windows during the day to help block out the sun and heat.
- Working with Maintenance to bring in cool air from the ventilation system at night.
- Limiting intensive physical activity and following [provincially approved physical activity safety standards](#).
- Ensuring students have access to drinking water, particularly as the Humidex rises. This could include bringing students in early from recess to cool off or take a water break.
- Employing other cooling strategies as needed such as handing out cool treats, running wrists under cool water, placing a damp cloth around the back of the neck, letting kids get their hair wet, setting up outdoor cool water stations, and moving classes outside in the shade.
- Watching for the signs and symptoms of heat stress, taking appropriate cooling measures and contacting 911 in the event of an emergency.

Additionally, one school is rotating students through two spaces cooled by portable air-conditioning units.

School administrators and staff continue to mitigate the impacts of heat by monitoring children closely. Caregivers with concerns about their child's response to the heat may take them home in consultation with school administrators.

SJASD Division Administration