

**Tools for Schools (TFS)/Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Updates
2012-2013 School Year
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Did you know ...that hand sanitizers kill germs, but do not remove substances on the hands and therefore, do not replace hand washing? Also, did you know that hand sanitizers will not work on dirty hands? Dirt and natural oils create a barrier that the sanitizers cannot penetrate.

Hand washing is essential to remove visible dirt and food. When hand washing is not feasible before lunch, students may use the district approved hand sanitizer located in the cafeteria. All elementary school classrooms that do not have sinks also have a hand sanitizer dispenser with the approved sanitizer for use by students. This hand sanitizer has been researched and chosen because of several attributes that make it more effective and desirable than others. It contains alcohol which is the most effective at reducing germs on the hands. It is fragrance-free which reduces the number of chemicals we are exposed to in the schools which is better for our health, the environment and Indoor Air Quality (IAQ).

In addition, teachers, staff, administrators and students may carry their own fragrance-free hand sanitizer (in 0.5 -3.0ounce containers) for personal use. This must be kept in their personal belongings (purse, back pack, desk drawer). Larger sizes and pump bottles may not be brought into school. For more information you can go to www.westport,k12.ct.us. Go to District- Tools for Schools- Procedures (IAQ Control and Improvement Procedures revisions effective Feb 1, 2012) or to the copy in your school's TFS binder