



# CASE STUDY >

## Hinsdale Middle School

Hinsdale, IL

See how AeraMax® Professional helped provide a cleaner learning environment.

### THE CHALLENGE

Architectural changes at Hinsdale Middle School caused some areas to have indoor air quality (IAQ) issues, such as undesirable odors.

Nothing gets a principal's attention quite like a parent or teacher complaint. If it's a **health-related concern tied to air quality**, the facility manager is also on the hot seat.

That's where Mike Vilendrer, Director of Operations at Community Consolidated School District 181, found himself after a teacher and a parent voiced concerns about air quality issues in separate classrooms.

The school building is in excellent condition and Vilendrer and his team strictly adhere to the state's green cleaning codes. However, architectural changes at the school over the years caused some areas to have indoor air quality (IAQ) issues, such as undesirable odors.

#### Facility Coordinator Mike Vilendrer's IAQ To-Do List:

- **Science lab:** A student with **sensitive allergies** had persistent health problems because of suspected IAQ issues in a science room where the student spent several hours of each day. The child's parent asked that a HEPA filter purification system be installed in the room to remove allergens.
- **Art room:** Art supplies were sending **lots of dust and other particles into the air**, which created an uncomfortable environment and could cause symptoms that affect concentration and focus.
- **Classroom:** A teacher reached out to the principal about **consistent problems with the air quality** in her classroom.

## THE SOLUTION

Vilendrer quickly realized that the HVAC system for the 108,000-square-foot school – no matter how well designed – was not equipped to handle the IAQ problems he faced. “We definitely can’t get a detailed level of control in each room because it’s such a big system,” Vilendrer said.

Instead, he installed **four AeraMax® Professional commercial-grade air purifiers** – three for the main problem locations, and one in the band room. This allowed the school to make indoor air quality a top priority where it was needed most.

“As far as the operational side, they’re quiet as can be and don’t impact teaching at all,” he said. “Believe me, if they did, I’d hear about it. We hear about the HVAC noise, the volume of air blowing on people, and those type of routine complaints. We haven’t heard a thing about the AeraMax Professional. People even ask if they’re on.”



### What made AeraMax Professional the best targeted air purification approach for Hinsdale Middle School?

- The units are designed to turn on and off on their own
- They remain quiet in public buildings such as schools and don’t disrupt teaching

## THE RESULTS

Eight months after installing the AeraMax Professional units – almost the entire school year – the difference was clear.

“The issues we were having completely went away,” he said.

More remarkably, the art teacher told Vilendrer that there had been a **noticeable drop in absences** compared with past school years.

Vilendrer continues to look for more opportunities to address IAQ issues with AeraMax Professional. His goal is to mitigate complaints while simultaneously providing **healthier and cleaner learning environments for students and teachers.**



“It’s a nice tool to use to improve the environment, especially for specific problem areas.”



- Mike Vilendrer

Director of Operations,  
Community Consolidated  
School District 181

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