



SUSTAINABLE CLEANING ENROLLS AT PROSPECT HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT

CHALLENGE

Originally founded in 1865, Prospect Heights School District in Prospect Heights, Ill. is comprised of Anne Sullivan Elementary School, Eisenhower Elementary School, Ross Elementary School and MacArthur Middle School. In recent years, the district – which serves children from pre-K through 8th grade – has made updates to geothermal heating and cooling systems, LED lighting and new flooring to align with its sustainability goals.

In addition to environmental stewardship, the district also prioritizes “cleaning for health”, because it recognizes the impact that proper cleaning and disinfecting have on the health and safety of students, teachers, administrators, visitors and cleaning staff.

“Due to the pandemic, we are using much more cleaning chemistry than ever before to maintain the district’s buildings,” said Brian Rominski, Director of Building & Grounds, Prospect Heights School District.

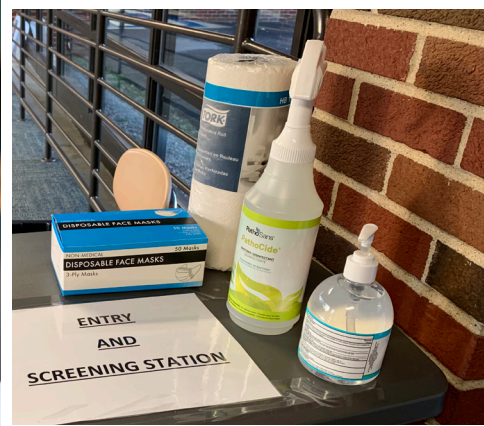
“We sought safe chemistry that would allow us to effectively clean and sanitize while minimizing personal and environmental exposure to toxic chemicals.”

SOLUTION

In its search for a cleaning program that better fit its sustainability and safety needs, the district found PathoSans®, which provides on-site generation (OSG) systems that create cleaning and disinfecting solutions using water, salt and electricity. The system generates PathoClean®, a cleaner/degreaser, in one tank and PathoCide®, a sanitizer/disinfectant, in its other tank. Produced in house and on demand, the electrochemically activated (ECA) solutions are non-irritating, have no added fragrance and are environmentally responsible.

Installed in July 2020 and housed in the middle school’s custodial closet, the PathoSans OSG system is used daily to clean and disinfect 225,000 square feet of space across the district’s buildings. Every morning, a porter checks the system, makes necessary adjustments, fills containers with solution and distributes the products to all four schools.

“Now that we have the PathoSans system in place, we always have an adequate supply of cleaning and disinfecting solutions for our facilities,” added Rominski. “We don’t have to worry about when or how to order more.”



“Today, we’re able to complete more cleaning with better results, greater confidence and a focus on sustainability.”

RESULTS

With the PathoSans system, Prospect Heights School District is pleased that it:

Has simplified cleaning - With student and staff presence currently diminished, and a simpler cleaning program that uses just two products, custodians can perfect their routines in preparation for increased attendance. Employees prep surfaces for disinfection by first using PathoClean to remove soils and biofilms. Long-term use of PathoClean restores surfaces to their intended finish, improving the appearance of the schools. Meanwhile, custodians follow up with PathoCide to disinfect high-touch surfaces in classrooms, faculty offices and more. The product is 99.999% effective against a wide range of bacteria, fungi and viruses.

Always has access to essential cleaning and disinfecting solutions - Prior to switching to PathoSans, the district faced supply chain issues related to the uptick in demand of cleaning solutions during the pandemic. With the PathoSans OSG system, the district has reliable product availability and can increase output whenever necessary. The system fits the district’s current need to clean more frequently and can scale as the district adjusts its cleaning schedules.

Can verify the safety and efficacy of the solutions - One of Rominski’s favorite features about the OSG system is that he and his custodial team can check the pH and free

available chlorine (FAC/ppm) of the PathoSans solutions daily to ensure they are within acceptable and effective ranges. Previously, the district relied on chemical providers’ claims that solutions were safe, but were unsure of the actual concentration levels and had no way of proving to employees that the products were free of risk. Now, employees know that PathoClean and PathoCide, which are made from three pure ingredients, won’t aggravate allergies or result in hazardous chemical exposure. “Staff members understand the PathoSans products are safe and effective,” said Rominski.

Generates less waste - With the PathoSans system, the district uses refillable bottles for their cleaning and disinfecting solutions, which greatly reduces plastic waste. The solutions are also drain- and disposal-friendly, eliminating worry about toxic disposal. Rominski feels good about reducing waste and supporting the district’s focus on sustainability throughout the cleaning program

“Over time, we’ve progressed from using many different chemicals to a four-chemical system and now to PathoSans’ two-product approach,” said Rominski. “The previous programs did not provide the safety and efficacy that PathoSans does. Today, we’re able to complete more cleaning with better results, greater confidence and a focus on sustainability.”

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