



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

September 24, 2020

School District No. 57 (Prince George) is working hard to keep schools healthy and safe for students and staff. As part of this effort, we are using a disinfectant approved by Health Canada in our buildings.

The disinfectant, called Vangard, has been approved for effective sanitization of COVID-19 and a broad range of other viruses and bacteria. Vangard has also been approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as safe for use on surfaces that come in contact with food.

Vangard's Safety Data Sheet indicates that it is not controlled under the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System, the international chemical safety standard. As such, the product is not poisonous, infectious, flammable, combustible, corrosive or dangerously reactive. Vangard is also biodegradable.

District custodians are using very low concentrations of Vangard. Just a few drops of the disinfectant is present in a litre of water.

In accordance with SD57's provincially-approved Re-Start Plan, a general cleaning and disinfecting of frequently-touched surfaces is required two times in a 24-hour period. Frequently-touched surfaces include tables, desks, chairs, doorknobs, light switches, toilet handles, electronic devices, keyboards, shared learning items/manipulatives and toys.

To meet the increased cleaning and disinfecting requirements, custodians have been equipped with handheld or backpack-model electrostatic sprayers.

Electrostatic sprayers do not "fog" rooms. They work by charging the disinfectant solution as it passes through the nozzle. This creates a very fine mist of positively-charged particles which are attracted to hard surfaces. Particles seek to land on items rather than hanging in the air, similar to magnetic attraction. Electrostatic sprayers allow for complete sanitization of hidden and hard-to-reach areas.

Spraying a single room takes two to three minutes. When using electrostatic sprayers, custodians point the nozzle directly at the surface to be disinfected.

Custodians are using electrostatic sprayers only when rooms are clear of occupants. Rooms are safe to enter and use 10 minutes after sanitization. A lemony scent will be noticed.



Quick Facts About Vangard

- Approved by Health Canada
- Approved for effective sanitization of COVID-19
- Not poisonous, infectious, flammable, combustible, corrosive or dangerously reactive
- Biodegradable
- Safe for food-contact surfaces

Quick Facts About Use of Electrostatic Sprayers

- Electrostatic sprayers are not "foggers"
- They spray a very fine disinfectant mist that is attracted to hard surfaces
- Rooms are not disinfected until they are empty
- Rooms are safe to enter after 10 minutes

While Vangard is a food-safe product, we are recommending that students and staff members remove food (as well as utensils, mugs, water bottles etc.) from rooms before disinfection.

For their own protection while sanitizing rooms, custodians are wearing gloves, goggles and respirators. Wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) is not new for custodians. PPE is necessary for several cleaning jobs, including in wood shops and when removing dust from gymnasium rafters.

Electrostatic spraying is not unique to SD57. Sprayers are being used throughout the province for their efficiency and effectiveness.