Operation of Schools During Hot Weather

McKinley has a “hot weather” plan in place for continued operations of schools during periods of extremely hot weather. We want to make sure our students are as comfortable as possible in school so that their learning can continue.

Instructional Program Modifications

Teachers may rearrange the daily schedule so that basic skills subjects are taught at the optimal time. Physical education activities may be limited to less strenuous activities and/or are rescheduled to a more appropriate time. Recess activities may be limited to quiet games that require a minimum of physical activity. Students may stay in the auditorium and shady areas on campus to get out of the hot sun during lunch recess and afternoon recess.

Alternative Locations for Instruction

Cooler areas of schools buildings and grounds are used when available. Teachers may have students gather in shaded lawn areas or move to rooms with better cross-ventilation. Students in non-air-conditioned portable facilities may be merged with other classes in air-conditioned buildings, such as media centers, cafeterias or auditoriums.

Extracurricular Activities

Before- and after-school programs may also be modified or activities rearranged.

Keeping Students Cool and Hydrated

Students are encouraged to bring containers of water to school during hot weather. Water fountains are available in all classes and we encourage students to take extra water fountain breaks throughout the day. Many teachers keep spray-bottles with water in classrooms so that they can ‘mist’ students at their request or as needed.

Students need to dress in lightweight clothing keeping with their school dress codes. Please also make sure to apply sunscreen to your child before school, as school staff are not permitted to apply it. If your child has a medical condition that may be compromised by exposure to high temperatures, you may keep your child at home or arrange for an early release. Don’t hesitate to contact the Health Office if you have any concerns at 619-282-7694.

More Information

- Administrative Procedure #4302 - Operation of Schools During Hot Weather
- San Diego Unified’s Air Conditioning Policy
- School Hot Weather Handout: English, Spanish
  - Heat Illness Prevention Plan
- Heat Exhaustion & Heat Stroke Fact Sheet