



Viewpoints

HVAC Improvements Linked to Better Outcomes for Students



A recent study from the State University of New York at Albany highlights the significant impact of HVAC system upgrades on student attendance, behavior, and academic performance. The research found that improving heating and ventilation systems led to a 2% increase in attendance, a 7% decrease in suspension rates, and notable improvements in standardized math scores. Math scores improved by 4% when heating systems were replaced and 3% when cooling systems were replaced. The study suggests that cleaner air circulation reduces illness related absences, while more comfortable temperatures enhance focus and reduce disciplinary issues.

For school districts, this research underscores the importance of prioritizing HVAC improvements, not only for health and safety but also for fostering better learning environments. Districts should consider incorporating HVAC improvements into their planning efforts to improve student well-being and academic outcomes.

For assistance in addressing legal considerations for HVAC improvements, contact any of our offices.

“We conclude that investments made now to improve school HVAC systems can benefit not only student comfort and well-being, but also enhance educational opportunity,” say the researchers, Lucy Sorensen, Moontae Hwang and Marzuka Ahmad Radia of the State University of New York at Albany.

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