

James Macklin

I'm a teacher in APS and teach in a portable. I have a swamp cooler. 3 years ago when we started school in August, my swamp cooler broke. It took almost 4 weeks to get fixed. During that time, with 5 fans running and all windows and doors open, it reached 100 degrees in my room. Empty with no students, it was 95. I ended up getting extremely dehydrated as I couldn't keep up with the fluid loss from sweat and ended up in the Emergency Room. Total cost about 1500 dollars.

This year as I wait for my swamp cooler to get turned on, I can't open my door because of a wasp nest on the roof. Last Friday with 3 fans, all the lights off and 24 students in the room it was 95 degrees. My students were sweating, arguing and in general could not focus. I ended up having to abandon my lesson plan.

We've had rooms at my school so hot that glue melts.

Bottom line--heat is a safety issue for staff and students in schools. We need this rule.