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## **LEGACY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY TAKES PROACTIVE STEPS TO UPGRADE INDOOR AIR QUALITY THROUGHOUT FACILITY**

### **A First in Minnesota, Installation of ISO-Aire™ Recirculation Units & Bolstered Bipolar Ionization Technology Offers Reliable, Proven Clean Air Solutions at Pre-K–12 Campus**

**ST. PAUL, MN – August 24, 2020** – Before the first bell rings in the new school year at Legacy Christian Academy (LCA) in Andover, MN, school leaders and staff have completed extensive indoor air purification upgrades to help safeguard their community. LCA is the first Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade school in Minnesota to implement this type of extensive medical-grade filtration solution, which includes enhanced ozone-free bipolar ionization installed into the existing HVAC system paired with strategic placement of six [ISO-Aire](#) air purification units. The bolstered ionization combined with the recirculating ISO-Aire's [HEPA filtration](#) and ionization ensures that indoor air is continuously cleaned and recirculated 24/7, helping to capture and destroy 99.99% of airborne particulates such as viruses, bacteria, mold, and pollen.

Jake Mulvihill, Head of School at LCA, and his team invested in the high-tech air quality enhancements to protect the health and safety of students, teachers, and staff. “Navigating the 2020-21 school year means taking every precaution available to ensure our school is prepared, and that includes purifying the air inside our buildings,” explained Mulvihill, who just issued reopening guidelines for families as students return for the first day of school Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. “We believe the best scenario for fulfilling our school mission means students will return to the classroom full time for a more meaningful and collaborative learning experience. These essential facility updates allow us to welcome families back to school safely and we are confident the measures we’ve taken will enable us to do so.”

#### **Effective Dual Technology: A First in Minnesota Schools**

Legacy Christian Academy’s vision of cleaner indoor air began early this summer when [Pro Control Building Solutions Group](#) in Anoka was brought in to assess LCA’s indoor air quality.

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Rick Atkinson, owner and engineering technician, quickly identified a need for enhanced [ozone-free bipolar ionization](#), a proactive approach to “scrubbing” indoor air by flooding the space with positive and negative ions. These ions play a [dual role in air purification](#). First, they attach themselves to air particles of all types and agglomerate, meaning they cluster and surround airborne particles helping them gain mass. As some fall to the floor, others are pulled toward a building’s air filtration system, in this case an ISO-Aire unit, where they are captured. Second, the ions surround potentially harmful microscopic airborne pathogens, such as a virus like COVID-19, and pull hydrogen away from the outer layer known as the protein coat. This ionization method neutralizes the virus and kills germs to avoid infection.

“We identify solutions to [make buildings healthy](#) and mitigate risk of harmful contaminants through proven technology in schools, senior living centers and office buildings,” Atkinson explained. “Ionization is effective because it works strategically in two ways in the battle against the spread of COVID-19 and other contagious viruses such as influenza. To maximize our efforts, we paired the ionization with ISO-Aire units that feature a 12-inch medical grade HEPA filter and enhanced ionization capabilities. We also installed real-time, cloud-based monitoring throughout the building to measure the air quality and track particulates to ensure the filtration system is effective.”

Chuck Albers, owner of St. Paul-based [Ducts & Cleats](#) and lead developer of ISO-Aire agreed that this dual approach offers added layers of protection in higher-occupancy school settings. And, it aligns with ASHRAE’s latest recommendation on indoor air quality in schools that recommends supplemental use of HEPA filtration unit paired with bipolar ionization and/or UVC sterilization. “Similar to a team sport, the ionization works as offense while the HEPA stands guard as defense inside our units, helping to capture 99.99% of airborne contaminants. Utilizing a high-powered fan, ISO-Aire then returns the sanitized air into the building environment and across the ceiling to disperse clean air from above,” Albers explained. “We are proud to partner with Legacy Christian Academy and Pro Control in bringing their vision for the 2020-21 school year to fruition.”

Together the ozone-free bipolar ionization and HEPA filtration help to capture and destroy 99.99% of potentially harmful airborne particulates that are invisible to the human eye, such as the Coronavirus particles measuring .1-.12 microns in diameter. The ISO-Aire recirculation units are strategically placed throughout the school, particularly in common areas such as LCA’s main entrance, near the music room, inside the sanctuary and in the gym.

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Albers and his team developed ISO-Aire at their St. Paul facility in early 2020 at the request of one of Minnesota's leading healthcare facilities in response to COVID-19 to ensure a secure and safe environment for patients and employees, particularly in negative pressure hospital isolation rooms. Realizing the technology could be adapted for commercial use, they redesigned the unit to accommodate a variety of building environments, such as schools, child-care centers, restaurants, hair salons and fitness studios. Emerging evidence and recommendations by [public health officials](#) and [scientists](#) is urging leaders to invest in further research to understand how COVID-19 may be transmitted by airborne particles. Albers noted, one of the most important safeguards during the pandemic is protecting the indoor air quality and removing any trace of harmful contaminants to protect one another.

### **About Legacy Christian Academy**

Legacy Christian Academy (LCA) is a Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade school that promotes academic excellence in a Christ-centered biblical worldview. The school fosters a loving, collaborative learning environment that encourages students to expand their intellect, develop Christ-like character, and fulfill their God-given potential. LCA is conveniently located on a scenic 30-acre campus in Andover, Minn. Learn more at [www.lcamn.org](http://www.lcamn.org).

### **Pro Control Building Solutions Group (BSG)**

A leading expert in HVAC controls, air and hydronic balancing and HVAC commissioning, Pro Control BSG offers more than 50 years of skill and experience. Their team is dedicated to energy conservation opportunities while identifying the best indoor air solutions to create healthy building environments. Learn more at [www.procontrolbsg.com](http://www.procontrolbsg.com).

### **About ISO-Aire**

The inner workings of the patent-pending ISO-Aire include reliable and proven filtration components that help to eliminate 99.99% of potentially harmful airborne contaminants. ISO-Aire includes a HEPA (High-efficiency Particulate Air), ozone-free bipolar ionization and/or UVC sterilization. ISO-Aire continues to expand its presence in a variety of applications across the U.S. where clean, filtered indoor air is essential, such as senior living centers, hospitals, child-care centers, restaurants, fitness studios and hair salons. Learn more at [www.ductsandcleats.com](http://www.ductsandcleats.com) and [www.ISO-Aire.com](http://www.ISO-Aire.com). Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#).

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