



# SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CISD

Press Release – September 29, 2021

## SFDR CISD INSTALLS AIR PURIFIERS IN SCHOOLS TO HELP COMBAT COVID-19

Early Monday morning, while teachers and students were walking into class, SFDR CISD's Maintenance Department was hard at work assembling, delivering, and installing portable air purifiers to classrooms across the District as part of SFDR CISD's Safety Mitigation Plan to reduce the incidence of COVID-19.

Purchased with Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds, Synexis Sphere units from Trane are making their presence in every classroom on every campus throughout this week. Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Carlos Rios, said he hopes the installation of these filters will help people feel much safer. "We want to let our families know that their students are in a safe environment. Same for our staff and for any visitors that come by our campuses. These portable air purifiers are the latest and greatest technology in air purification." Dr. Rios went on to say, "I commend our Board of Trustees for having the courage to invest over \$2 Million towards the safety of our students."

According to studies released by Trane, the free-standing Synexis Sphere units selected by the school district, offer patented microbial-reduction technology, which continuously reduces harmful microbes in air and on surfaces. Synexis uses a process by which naturally occurring oxygen and humidity in the air is converted to Dry Hydrogen Peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) or DHP. DHP molecules travel throughout an enclosed space to actively reduce certain viruses (including COVID-19), bacteria, mold, odors and many insects. "We are hopeful that the installation of these systems will help limit the spread of not just COVID, but of other viruses and allergens. We're coming up on flu season, so that's going to be a huge help to resolve other problems as well," said Dr. Rios.

During a brief interview, Scott Huffmaster, Healthy Buildings Leader, for Trane Technologies stated, "We commend the San Felipe Del Rio school district for going the extra mile to improve the quality of air in its schools in line with industry and Texas Education Agency guidelines. Trane is proud to support the district's measures to mitigate risk of airborne exposures for a safer in person learning environment. Long-term investments in indoor air quality will benefit students, staff and building occupants for years to come."

Together, We Are Better!