***The below is a sample of a message that can be sent to staff and parents to let them know about your participation in the ADEQ Air Quality Flag Program. This text can be edited for your school, business or organization, as needed. We suggest sending an e-mail message or including the information in a newsletter for interested parties after the program is launched.***

**Sample E-mail Subject Line**

Our school is now participating in the ADEQ Flag Program | What is it?

**Sample E-mail Body**

Greetings [Name],

Our school is now participating in the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Air Quality Flag Program. You may notice brightly colored flags flown on the flagpole each day to raise awareness about air quality and the choices we can make to protect ourselves, our students and our families from the impacts of air pollution.

Poor air quality can have a profound impact on our health and well-being. Children are especially vulnerable to the negative health effects of air pollution because their lungs are still developing and they tend to spend more time outdoors engaged in physical activities. Even small reductions in exposure to air pollution can have immediate and long-lasting benefits to children’s respiratory health.

Each school day, we will hang a flag matching the color of the Air Quality Index (AQI). ADEQ issues a daily AQI forecast that shows hourly concentrations of pollutants in the air. By comparing the colored flags to the AQI, you will know what actions to take to protect your health and that of your student(s) and family. This information can be used to determine if outdoor activities should to be limited, especially for sensitive groups, such as children with asthma.

For more information, see the links below:

ADEQ Air Quality Hourly Forecasts | [View >](http://azdeq.gov/forecasting)

ADEQ Air Quality Flag Program | [View >](http://azdeq.gov/FlagProgram)

We are excited to be a part of this program, benefiting our students, staff and families.