PISCATAWAY
TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

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Superintendent of Schools

David Oliveira
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

June 19, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our school system is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. For this reason, the Piscataway Township Schools tested our schools' drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, the District implemented immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]). The measures included turning off the outlet unless it was determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign was posted.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for each of our buildings. We identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 469 outlets sampled, 26 tested above the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency. These outlets were all remediated.

The table below identifies the drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead, the actual lead level, and what remedial action the Piscataway Township Schools has taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

Administration Building	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Hallway fountain near room 124	19.8	Disconnected outlet and bottled water provided
Hallway fountain near room 126	34.3	Disconnected outlet and bottled water provided
Kitchen sink faucet #1	106	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK-SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Added filter.
Kitchen sink faucet #2	56.8	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK-SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Added filter.
HR Kitchen sink faucet	123	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK-SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Changed kitchen filter and replaced faucet.

Arbor Intermediate School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Art room faucet	50.4	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Changed filters and replaced faucet.
Library office faucet/fountain	30.6	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Changed filters, replaced faucet and removed fountain.

Eisenhower Elementary School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
A.V. Center – sink with fountain	19.5	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet and removed fountain.
Main Office – sink with fountain	57.2	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet and removed fountain.

Grandview Elementary School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 9B	21.2	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet and removed fountain.

Martin Luther King Intermediate School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Girl's Locker Room – Drinking Fountain	1230	Disconnected outlet. Alternative water locations provided.
Main Office – Sink with fountain	18.9	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet and removed fountain.

Knollwood Elementary School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 6A – Sink faucet	80.0	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet.

Piscataway High School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
SBA Kitchen faucet #4	29.7	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Changed aerator.
SBA Kitchen faucet #6	82.0	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Changed aerator.
SBA hallway fountain near D215	41.8	Disconnected outlet. Alternative water locations provided.
SBA B108 fountain	86.0	Removed fountain.
SBA Staff dining kitchen faucet #19	69.5	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Changed aerator.
SBA Staff dining kitchen faucet #21A	16.9	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Changed aerator.
Patton Food Service office faucet	47.2	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY".
Patton hallway fountain near CST office	38.3	Disconnected outlet. Alternative water locations provided.

Quibbletown Middle School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 23 – sink faucet #5	32.2	Replaced filter and changed faucet.

Randolphville Elementary School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 24 – sink/basin	41.5	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet.
Hallway fountain across from Health Office	16.3	Disconnected outlet. Alternative water locations provided.
Room 16 – sink with fountain	48.8	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet and removed fountain.

T. Schor Middle School	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 6 – sink with faucet	21.2	Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY". Replaced faucet.

Samples taken at the following locations met the approved level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/l [ppb]):

Children's Corner River
Children's Corner Pond
Conackamack Middle School

For More Information

A copy of the test results is available in our central office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents, and can be viewed between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and are also available on our website at www.piscatawayschools.org. Additional information about the health effects of lead are included as an attachment. For more information about water quality in our schools, contact William Griffith in the Facilities Department, 732-572-2289 x2613.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at **www.epa.gov/lead,** call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Be assured that the Piscataway Township Schools will continue to monitor our water outlets and take all necessary steps to assure the safety of our students.

Sincerely,

David Oliveira
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Additional Information Regarding Lead in Drinking Water

Health Effects of Lead

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years of age. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very* high levels, lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

How Lead Enters our Water

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like groundwater, rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and in building plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass, and chrome-plated brass faucets. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials. However, even the lead in plumbing materials meeting these new requirements is subject to corrosion. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.