



Dover Public School District

*Mr. Robert B. Becker, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Beth Schoonmaker, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Kevin Bullock, Federal Programs Administrator*



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

As a result of potentially harmful effects caused by high levels of lead exposure, the State of New Jersey passed a law requiring all public schools to test for lead in drinking water prior to July 2017:

Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning. However, it can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

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 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.

Dover Public Schools, in accordance with regulations mandated by the New Jersey Department of Education, tested all potable water sources for lead. In addition to water testing, we completed a plumbing profile for each of our schools. Through this effort, we tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 120 samples taken, all but six (6) tested below the lead action level established by the State Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/L [parts per billion]). It is important to note, that in accordance with the technical guidance, the testing was done on standing water that had not been flushed.

In accordance with the Department of Education's regulations, the district implemented remedial measures for any drinking water outlets with a result greater than the level of 15 µg/L (ppb). This included installing filtration devices on three (3) outlets and permanently disconnecting three (3) outlets by shutting off the water source.

The table below identifies the locations of the drinking water outlets that initially tested above the 15 (ppb) for lead, the lead level, remedial measure taken, and the lead level following the second sample draw.

School	Sample #	Sample Location	Initial Level Detected (ppb)	Remedial Action	Second Draw Level Detected (ppb)
DHS	DHS-8	WF Room 304 Bath	28	DC – Shut Off Water Source	Disconnected
DHS	DHS-14	WF Outside Room 401	26	Installed Filtration System	ND – <i>Lead Not Detected</i>
DHS	DHS-38	WF Outside Room 213	43	DC – Shut Off Water Source	Disconnected
ASE	ASS-3	Nurse Office	1700	Installed Filtration System	1
ASE	ASS-11	SB Room 11 Right	26	Installed Filtration System	ND – <i>Lead Not Detected</i>
ED	EDMS-6	WF by Telephone Booth	98	DC – Shut Off Water Source	Disconnected

We are pleased to report that as a result of the remedial measures taken, the lead levels of all the potable water sources within the district are below the 15 µg/L (ppb) threshold. We will continue to monitor the lead levels within our water sources in accordance with code.

A copy of the test results are available in the Facility Manager’s Office for review by the public and are posted on our website. For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Robert Gomes, Facility Manager at (973) 989 – 2012.

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

Sincerely,



Robert Gomes
 Facility Manager
 Dover Public Schools