



Holley Central School District

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January 8, 2021

RE: Lead in Drinking Water Testing – Holley Central School District

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Holley Central Schools Staff,

Safe and healthy school environments can foster healthy and successful children. To protect public health, the Public Health Law and New York State Health Department (NYSDOH) regulations require that all public schools and boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) test lead levels in water from every outlet that is being used, or could potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), which is equal to 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), the NYSDOH requires that the school take action to reduce the exposure to lead.

The “on-again, off-again” nature of water use at most schools can raise lead levels in school drinking water. Water that remains in pipes overnight, over a weekend, or over vacation periods stays in contact with lead pipes or lead solder and, as a result, could contain higher levels of lead. As such, schools are required to collect a sample after the water has been sitting in the plumbing system for a certain period of time. This “first draw” sample is likely to show higher levels of lead for that outlet than if sampled after using the water continuously. However, even if the first draw sample does not reflect what would be observed with continuous usage, it is still important because it can identify outlets that have elevated lead levels.

In accordance with Subpart 67-4 of New York State’s Codes, Rules, and Regulations, Holley Central School District contracted with an outside firm to perform lead in drinking water sampling throughout the district. On October 21, November 13, and December 22, 2020, lead in drinking water testing was completed at Holley Elementary School, Holley Middle School/High School and The Woodlands.

Holley Elementary School-At the elementary school, in total, one hundred twenty six (126) samples were taken from outlets throughout the building. Four (4) outlets during the testing were found to exceed the action level of 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$; (2) classrooms, (1) administrative conference room and (1) physical education teachers bathroom.

The remediation plan began by posting signage up at each outlet that indicated they can be used for hand washing only. Then a parts replacement process will start by evaluating the aerator, supply lines and faucet. Once this has been completed, the outlet will be retested until it passes.

Holley Middle/High School-At the Holley Middle/High School, in total, ninety eight (98) samples were taken from outlets throughout the building. One (1) outlet during the testing was found to exceed the action level of 15 µg/L. This outlet was an outdoor spigot.

The remediation plan began by posting signage by the spigot and removing handles. All parts will be evaluated for replacement and retesting will occur.

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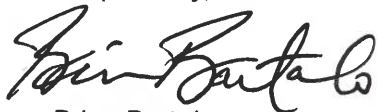
The Woodlands-In total, seven (7) samples were taken from outlets throughout the facility. Three (3) outlets for the Woodlands during the testing were found to exceed the action level of 15 µg/L. These outlets consisted of (2) in the kitchen and (1) outdoor spigot.

The remediation plan began by posting signage up at each outlet that indicated they can be used for hand washing only. A parts replacement process will start by evaluating the aerator, supply lines and faucet. Once this has been completed, the outlet will be retested until it passes.

To reiterate, the failing fixtures were promptly noted, and a remediation plan is being evaluated for these outlets, per state requirements. Comprehensive results of this initial round of testing will be posted to the district website within the next 5-6 weeks. Subsequent testing on failed fixtures throughout the district is currently underway.

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the District Office at 585-638-6316.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Bartalo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brian Bartalo
Superintendent

Additional Resources

For information about lead in school drinking water, go to:

http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/lead_testing_of_school_drinking_water.htm

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/facplan/LeadTestinginSchoolDrinkingWater.html>

For information about NYS Department of Health Lead Poisoning Prevention, go to:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/>

For more information on blood lead testing and ways to reduce your child's risk of exposure to lead, see "What Your Child's Blood Lead Test Means":

<http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2526/>