

February 14, 2017

Dear **SOUTH HUNTERDON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT** Community,

Our school system is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, **SOUTH HUNTERDON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT** tested our schools' drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, **SOUTH HUNTERDON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT** will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]). This includes turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within **SOUTH HUNTERDON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 17 initial samples taken at the Lambertville School, all but 4 tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/l [ppb]).

The table below identifies the water outlet that tested at or above the 15 ppb for lead, the actual lead level, and what temporary remedial action **SOUTH HUNTERDON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT** has taken to reduce the levels of lead at this location.

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Lambertville School Point of Entry ID #: LAM-POE	320	Posted as "Do Not Drink-Safe for Handwashing Only"
Flush Sample Results	2.3	
Lambertville School Water Fountain -Hallway ID #: LAM-WF-01	5.4	Immediately shut off. Further remedial actions to be taken and fixture to be re-sampled.
Flush Sample Results	54	
Lambertville School Sink Kitchen ID #: LAM-S-06	6	Posted as "Do Not Drink-Safe for Handwashing Only"
Flush Sample Results	44	
Lambertville School Water Fountain Room 7 ID #: LAM-WF-15	16	Immediately shut off. Further remedial actions to be taken and fixture to be re-sampled.
Flush Sample Results	7.1	

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.

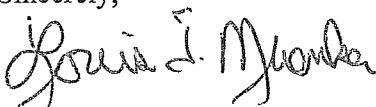
For More Information

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 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and are also available on our website at www.MUJC.org. For more information about water quality in our schools contact the Business Administrator at 609-397-0323.

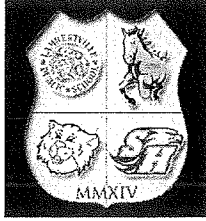
For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

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.

Sincerely,



Superintendent of Schools



South Hunterdon Regional School District

301 Mt. Airy – Harbourton Road, Lambertville, New Jersey 08530
www.shrsd.org

Louis T. Muenker, D.Ed., Superintendent of Schools (609) 397-1888 (609) 397-6495 Fax
Kerry Sevilis, Business Administrator/Board Secretary (609) 397-0323 (609) 397-2508 Fax
Geoff Hewitt, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment (609) 397-9311 (609) 397-2470 Fax

February 15, 2017

Dear LPS Community:

First, my apologies for not providing a more detailed explanation of the results of water tests at Lambertville Public School.

The water quality at Lambertville Public School has been tested in prior years. The last testing for LPS occurred in May 2016, and there was no indication of unsafe water due to lead or other pollutants at that time. This year, however, a new state law requires all New Jersey schools to undertake a more extensive program of testing for the presence of lead and other pollutants at the main inlet, as well as at any location where water could be consumed for drinking or used for cooking.

Is Our School's Drinking Water Safe?

Yes, our school's water is safe. SHRSD tested our drinking water for lead. Of the 18 water samples we tested, 4 showed lead levels above the 15 ppb (parts per billion) mark set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The first sample of high lead (point of entry) was found in the custodian maintenance/work closet outside of our gym area. This faucet is not used by our custodians or anyone else.

The second sample of high lead levels was one of our fountains outside of our gym area. This fountain is now turned off and is inoperable. We will work at identifying the sources of the lead so we can fix the problem.

Our third sample with high lead levels was a water fountain found in Room 7. The source of lead will also be remedied and tested before it can be used. Alternate water is being provided to the children in that room. This water fountain is currently shut off until again, we deem it safe for drinking. In the interim, bottled water will be available for the children in Room 7.

The final sample with high lead levels was a faucet in the LPS kitchen. Food service and hygiene can continue as normal without the use of this particular faucet until it is repaired and retested.

Lambertville Public School – Wanda Quinones, Principal	(609) 397-0183	(609) 397-4607 Fax
South Hunterdon Regional High School – Jennifer Beresh MacKnight, Principal	(609) 397-2060	(609) 397-2366 Fax
Stockton Borough Elementary School – Geoff Hewitt, Principal	(609) 397-9023	(609) 397-2012 Fax
West Amwell Township Elementary School – David Miller, Principal	(609) 397-0819	(609) 397-4350 Fax

Why Is There Lead In The Water?

Lead enters drinking water when service pipes that contain lead corrode, especially where the water has high acidity or low mineral content that corrodes pipes and fixtures. The most common sources of lead in water are brass or chrome-plated brass faucets, or pipes and fixtures with lead solder. Public water systems or buildings constructed before 1986, when the use of lead in plumbing materials was banned, are more likely to incorporate such fixtures or solder.

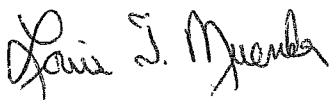
The longer water has been sitting in pipes, the more lead it tends to contain. This explains why some of the highest readings at LPS were found at spigots that are rarely used, such as in the custodian's closet. Flushing a tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using it will minimize the potential for lead exposure.

All sources of water that do not meet the safe levels of use have been turned off. We will work at correcting these locations and re-test before placing lines back in service.

How Can I Learn More?

The South Hunterdon Regional School District is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. We will post these findings on our district website. Please feel free to contact me at 609-397-1888 regarding concerns you may have related to the issue. For information about water quality and sampling for lead at home, contact your local water supplier or state drinking water agency. If you are concerned about any potential lead exposure through the water at school, home, or elsewhere, please contact your healthcare provider about testing children to determine the levels of lead in their blood.

Sincerely,



Louis T. Muenker, D.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

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