



Hamilton Township School District

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District Website: hamiltonschools.org

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December 7, 2016

Dear Hamilton School Community:

I hope this letter finds you doing well. As a follow up to my prior correspondence from November 28, 2016, the Hamilton Township Schools have initiated the mandatory testing of all drinking water for lead. We have completed our analysis at the Davies and the Hess Schools. I am pleased to report that all drinking water faucets at the Hess and the Davies Schools were well under the 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ (parts per billion) parameter as established by the DOE and the DEP. Our analysis did reveal elevated levels of lead in one sample at the Hess School, a utility sink that is not accessible to students in the boiler room. We will be taking steps to remediate the fixture and retest the water sometime next week.

Results of our Testing

The table below identifies the one fixture at the Hess School that tested above the lead action level, 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ (ppb) for lead and what remedial action has been taken as of this morning.

Location	First Draw Result in $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ (ppb)	Remedial Action Taken
Boiler Room (Utility Sink)	29.7 ppb	Shut off water to fixture.

Our next step will be to replace the affected fixture in the boiler room at the Hess School. After the fixture is replaced, we will retest the water and post our findings on line.

The fixtures that were affected at the Shaner School, as per our November 28th letter, have already been replaced. New water samples have been drawn and we are anticipating updated water test results by the end of the week.

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 plumbing fixtures 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 elevated levels of lead.

All Children Can Learn!  **All Children Can Succeed!**

RECIPIENT OF NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON AWARD, NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAR SCHOOL AND BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

For More Information

A copy of the test results for the Shaner, Hess and Davies Schools are available in our central office for inspection by the public and can be viewed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The results are also available on our website at www.hamiltonschools.org. For more information about the water quality in our schools, feel free to contact our Business Administrator, Ann-Marie Fala, at our Board of Education Office at 476-6302.

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

The safety of our staff and students is paramount. Allow me to take this opportunity to once again assure you that we are adhering to all state guidelines and recommendations for testing and remediation. As we near the completion of the required testing cycle of our drinking water in the District, allow me to share with you that transparency, timely regulatory compliance, and safety are our primary goals. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Vogel', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Frank Vogel
Superintendent of Schools

FV/tv