

February 2017



Dear Families of the Rochester City School District,

We want to update you on the District's water testing.

Last summer, the District worked in collaboration with the Monroe County Department of Public Health to test fountains and sinks used for drinking water in city schools. The tests followed Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines which stated that lead in water should not exceed 20 parts per billion (ppb).

Per new regulations established by New York State in September of 2016, school districts are now required to test additional water outlet locations and take action on all those that exceed 15 ppb, including the fixtures tested over the summer.

In January, the District completed this testing and identified that of more than 4,000 tests, 163 outlets tested above the 15 ppb for lead. Those outlets have been either labeled "DO NOT DRINK THIS WATER," or turned off. Any fixture that was left on but labeled as not safe for drinking can be safely used for sanitary purposes such as handwashing and dishwashing.

The results will be posted on our website by March, 2017. You can also visit www.rcsdk12.org/watersafety for useful information about lead and water safety.

We will continue to take the necessary steps to provide safe drinking water for all students and staff. For more information, please call the District's Environmental Health and Safety office at (585) 336-4005.

Michael Schmidt
Chief of Operations

Suzanne Wheatcraft
Coordinator of Environmental Safety

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