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Menands Union Free School District



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October 28, 2016

Dear Menands School Parents and Staff Members:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that on Tuesday October 25th the district received a preliminary results of water quality testing in accordance with legislation signed by Governor Cuomo on September 6. The new law requires all New York State public schools to test all sources of potable water for lead contamination. The State Department of Health and State Education Department have established an action level threshold of 15 parts per billion. Water sources that test higher must be immediately taken out of service and/or labeled not "Not for Drinking" and corrective action must be taken.

It is important to note that the Menands Union Free School district has followed its own water testing protocols initiated long before the state enacted legislation, to ensure the quality of drinking water in our schools. The results have consistently shown that drinking water sources in our school have tested below the actionable level set by the state.

All potable water sources at Menands School were tested including drinking fountains and sink faucets in classrooms, restrooms and the cafeteria. Of the 61 samples drawn at the school eight tested above the allowable .015 mg/l or 15 parts per billion as per the new regulations. Those faucets, identified below, are used for hand washing and cleaning purposes only; none of the eight are designated for drinking. The identified faucets have been taken offline, and/or labeled and are as follows.

Science Lab Sinks

- #1 - 135 parts per billion
- #2 - 38.8
- #3 - 24.7
- #4 - 20.0
- #5 - 20.2

Reading Room Sink 19.5

Boiler Room Sink 18.9

Exterior Faucet 358

(over)

A second round of testing will be conducted and next steps will be determined. If the results continue to show actionable levels of lead, the district will work to replace or remediate the affected water pipes and fixtures. As a follow-up, additional water tests will be conducted to determine if the replacement/remediation was successful before placing the faucets back in service.

Please be assured that we will continue to take the necessary steps to ensure the quality of drinking water in our district meets the state regulations. We will keep you informed as we continue to receive the results of the ongoing water testing at our schools.

Please call me at (518)465-4561, if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Maureen A. Long
Superintendent

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

[New York State Department of Health Regulations for new water testing law](#)

New York State Department of Health: [Information for Child Care Providers and Schools](#)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: [Basic Information About Lead in Drinking Water](#)

Governor Cuomo signs Landmark Legislation to Test Drinking Water in New York Schools for Lead Contamination, [Press Release](#)