



Dr. Deborah L. Wortham, Superintendent of Schools  
105 South Madison Ave.  
Spring Valley, NY 10977

**Re: Lead in Water Update**

Dear Dr. Wortham;

The purpose of this letter is to update the progress of the District with the response to the testing done for the lead in water.

Last week, the governor signed legislation requiring all Districts test their water for lead and the NYS Department of Health issued emergency regulations regarding the testing and required responses. The legislation also lowered the acceptable level of lead from 20 ppb to 15 ppb. The new legislation was evaluated and incorporated into the plan for correcting the faucets found with elevated lead levels.

Since the original testing was completed, the District response was to be proactive and put building occupant safety as the primary concern. The response has been very conservative.

Following is a summary of the plans for the District:

**A. Kitchens**

1. A total of 28 kitchen faucets were found with elevated lead levels.
2. The District worked with the Food Service Provider to modify the menus and adjust how food is prepared and dishes washed to not risk contamination.
3. The District is ordering stainless steel faucets and will replace all the faucets with elevated lead levels. Before they are used for all purposes, the faucets will be re-tested.
4. Filters have been placed on one faucet in each kitchen with problems so there is water available in the kitchen safe to use.
5. The faucets will be replaced within two- weeks.

**B. Fountains**

1. A total of 11 drinking water fountains were found with elevated levels of lead. They will be replaced in the next month. While this is done, some will be made ADA compatible.
2. Coolers with water have been provided in these areas until the fountains are replaced.
3. In the event that there is a requirement to make the fountains ADA accessible, the renovations may take longer as some wall reconstruction could be required.

**C. Home Economics**

1. Most of the faucets in the home economics rooms were found with elevated lead levels.
2. The faucets will be replaced in the next 2-3 weeks.

3. The piping associated with the faucets will be tested to insure the pipes are clean. If they are found contaminated, the rooms will be re-piped.
4. Until the faucets are replaced, the faucets will be turned off.

D. Science Rooms

1. The high school science rooms were all renovated about 12 years ago. All the faucets tested high for lead. At the time of the renovations, the EPA standard for lead allowed in the faucet was 8%. The standard since 2014 is 0.25% lead.
2. The faucets will be replaced by the end of October 2016. In the meantime, the existing faucets will be used for handwashing only. Appropriate signs will be placed where needed.

E. Nurses office faucets

1. Five of the nurse's offices had elevated lead levels in the sinks.
2. The sinks have been limited to hand washing and clean drinking water provided through a cooler.
3. The cooler water has been provided for all nurses offices.

F. Bubblers in classrooms.

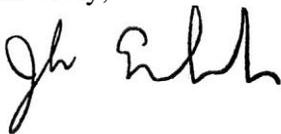
1. All bubblers with elevated lead levels or where the nearby sink had elevated lead levels have been turned off.
2. Drinking water has been provided in the corridors with water coolers.
3. The bubblers and faucets will either be replaced or the faucets replaced and additional fountains provided in the corridors.
4. This work will take longer to be complete and a schedule will be provided when available.

The kitchens and fountains are the two highest priorities with Home Economics and Science rooms close behind. The goal is to correct all the problems with kitchens, Home Economics and Science rooms by the end of October 2016 unless problems arise with the piping.

Progress will be updated next week.

Please express my appreciation to your staff for their efforts to resolve the problem. Working as a team has made this process go very smoothly.

Sincerely;



Jack Eisenbach

CC: Valter Paci  
Howard Hyman

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