



Administrative Services

MICHAEL J. SHEPERD

Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services

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June 18, 2021

Dear CiTi School Community,

In September 2016, the Governor signed into law Chapter 296 of the Laws of 2016 and the NYSDOH adopted regulations 10 NYCRR Subpart 67-4 requiring school districts and BOCES to test school potable water sources. The intent of these regulations is to monitor for lead contamination and remediate water outlets producing lead levels of more than 15 parts per billion (ppb). In accordance with these regulations, the CiTi has tested our schools' drinking water for lead and would like to notify you of the results.

Testing was conducted using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommendations as described in their document "3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools." Samples were collected by certified technician and evaluated using a certified NYSDOH laboratory. The full report of our testing results is available on the CiTi website, CiTiboces.org.

In addition, because your child/student attends a CiTi program located at Fulton City School District, we are also including a copy of Fulton's notification letter regarding water testing results for their buildings.

CiTi is committed to the safety and health of our students and staff, which has and will continue to be our highest priority. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mr. Jim Cerio, Director of Facilities at (315) 963-4368.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Michael J. Sheperd'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Michael' being the most prominent part.

Michael J. Sheperd

Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services

A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

179 County Route 64, Mexico, NY 13114

Christopher J. Todd, District Superintendent/Executive Officer



FULTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Brian T. Pulvino
Superintendent of Schools

School Water Lead Testing

March 26, 2021

Dear FCSD Families,

Safe and healthy school environments can foster healthy and successful children. To protect public health, the Public Health Law and New York State Health Department (NYSDOH) regulations require that all public schools and boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) test lead levels in water from every outlet that is being used, or could potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), which is equal to 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), the NYSDOH requires that the school take action to reduce the exposure to lead.

What is first draw testing of school drinking water for lead?

The “on-again, off-again” nature of water use at most schools can raise lead levels in school drinking water. Water that remains in pipes overnight, over a weekend, or over vacation periods stays in contact with lead pipes or lead solder and, as a result, could contain higher levels of lead. This is why schools are required to collect a sample after the water has been sitting in the plumbing system for a certain period of time. This “first draw” sample is likely to show higher levels of lead for that outlet than what you would see if you sampled after using the water continuously. However, even if the first draw sample does not reflect what you would see with continuous usage, it is still important because it can identify outlets that have elevated lead levels.

What are the results of the first draw testing?

Granby Elementary, Volney Elementary, Fairgrieve Elementary, Lanigan Elementary, GRB High School and FJHS served as sampling locations from 1/28/2021 – 2/05/2021. All water outlets were sampled. A summary of results can be found on the Fulton City School District Website: [Water Sampling Results](#). Outlets sampling above 15 parts per billion (ppb), are highlighted in yellow.

What is being done in response to the results?

Outlets that tested with lead levels above the action level (15 ppb) were removed from service, unless an outlet is a sink faucet needed for handwashing. In that case, a sign was posted at the outlet indicating that the sink is not to be used for drinking. Outlets that tested below the action level remain in service with no restrictions. Outlets and faucets removed from service due to lead levels above 15 ppb will be serviced and re-tested.

What are the health effects of lead?

Lead is a metal that can harm children and adults when it gets into their bodies. Lead is a known neurotoxin, particularly harmful to the developing brain and nervous system of children under 6 years old. Lead can harm a young child's growth, behavior, and ability to learn. Lead exposure during pregnancy may contribute to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. There are many sources of lead exposure in the environment, and it is important to reduce all lead exposures as much as possible. Water testing helps identify and correct possible sources of lead that contribute to exposure from drinking water.

What are the other sources of lead exposure?

Lead is a metal that has been used for centuries for many purposes, resulting in widespread distribution in the environment. Major sources of lead exposure include lead-based paint in older housing, and lead that built up over decades in soil and dust due to historical use of lead in gasoline, paint, and manufacturing. Lead can also be found in a number of consumer products, including certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, foods, plumbing materials, and cosmetics. Lead seldom occurs naturally in water supplies but drinking water could become a possible source of lead exposure if the building's plumbing contains lead. The primary source of lead exposure for most children with elevated blood-lead levels is lead-based paint.

Should your child be tested for lead?

The risk to an individual child from past exposure to elevated lead in drinking water depends on many factors; for example, a child's age, weight, amount of water consumed, and the amount of lead in the water. Children may also be exposed to other significant sources of lead including paint, soil and dust. Since blood lead testing is the only way to determine a child's blood lead level, parents should discuss their child's health history with their child's physician to determine if blood lead testing is appropriate. Pregnant women or women of childbearing age should also consider discussing this matter with their physician.

Additional Resources

For more information regarding the testing program or sampling results, go to our school website: [*School Testing Sampling Results*](#)

For information about lead in school drinking water, go to:

http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/lead_testing_of_school_drinking_water.htm

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/facplan/LeadTestinginSchoolDrinkingWater.html>

For information about NYS Department of Health Lead Poisoning Prevention, go to:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/>

For more information on blood lead testing and ways to reduce your child's risk of exposure to lead, see "What Your Child's Blood Lead Test Means":

<http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2526/> (available in ten languages).

Sincerely,

Brian T. Pulvino, Superintendent