



# West Seneca Central School District

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Mark J. Crawford, Ed. D.  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**Joseph M. Farr**  
*Superintendent of Buildings  
& Grounds*

October 24, 2016

Dear Elementary School Parents and Guardians:

To protect public health, New York State (NYS) recently enacted a new regulation requiring that every public school in New York State test their drinking water for lead. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), NYS requires that action be taken to reduce the lead to a level not to exceed 15 parts per billion.

It is vital that schools conduct these tests, as high levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. 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 lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water.

The West Seneca Central School District, in accordance with legislation signed by the Governor on September 6 of this year, has tested all water sources in the elementary buildings. I received and opened the test results on October 20, 2016 and have corrected or disabled any questionable water outlets as we continue the process to remediate non-conforming items. The District has tested water sources in the past under the EPA regulations. New York State's new regulations have lowered the acceptable thresholds so at this point, we are conforming to the new regulations. The results and actions taken by the District are as follows:

## **Allendale**

Girl's Locker Room Fountain, 43.6 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 131 Sink, 15.6 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Girl's Lav Sink, 27.6 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 109 Sink, 23.4 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 110 Sink, 15.1 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 111 Sink, 20.1 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 116 Fountain, 42.2 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled

### Clinton

Kitchen Sink C, 89.2 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Kitchen Sink R, 36.1 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 130 Sink, 52.9 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 123 Sink, 32.9 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Faculty Room Lav Sink, 16.8 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 209 Sink, 17.9 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 211 Sink, 68.7 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 212 Sink, 17.6 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled

### Northwood

Rm 229 Sink, 16.4 ppb, replaced faucet and retest

### West El

Boiler Rm Slop Sink, 24 ppb, post non-potable  
Kitchen Sink #1, 23 ppb, replaced faucet and retest  
Kitchen Sink #2, 39.5 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Kitchen Sink #3, 17.7 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Kitchen Sink #4, 17.9 ppb, replaced faucet and retest  
Kitchen Custodial Slop Sink, 73.6 ppb, post non-potable  
Faculty Sink, 15.3 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 3 Sink, 46.4 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Custodial Slop Sink, 19.3 ppb, post non-potable  
Basement Handicap Lav Sink, 98.2 ppb, replaced and retest  
Custodial Lav Sink, 15.6 ppb, post non-potable  
Rm 142 Lav Sink, 18.1 ppb, replaced and retest  
Rm 113 Fountain, 25 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Rm 113 Sink, 21 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
\*Rm 133 Science Lab Sink, 513 ppb, decommissioned  
\*Rm 133 Science Lab Sink 1050 ppb, decommissioned  
\*Rm 136 Science Lab Sink 3450 ppb, decommissioned  
\*Rm 136 Science Lab Sink 1350 ppb, decommissioned  
Rm 100 Sink, 17.5 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Nurse's Lav Sink #1, 16.7 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled  
Custodial Slop Sink, 21.3 ppb, post non-potable  
\*Rm 203 Science Lab Sink, 78.9 ppb, decommissioned  
Custodial Slop Sink, 22.5 ppb, post non-potable  
\*Rm 239 Science Lab Sink, 94.5 ppb, decommissioned  
\*Rm 237 Science Lab Sink, 86.3 ppb, decommissioned  
\*Rm 238 Science Lab Sink, 35.4 ppb, decommissioned  
\*Rm 240 Science Lab Sink, 72.9 ppb, decommissioned

\*Because West El was originally built as a middle school, it contains science lab sinks that are not present in any other elementary buildings. The sinks and counter tops for the past several year have been used for material storage such as but not limited to books, art supplies, etc. They have not been used as a functional sink.

**Winchester**

Custodial Lav Sink, 46.6 ppb, post non-potable and replacement scheduled

Boy's Locker Room Fountain, 39 ppb, valve off, replacement scheduled

Kitchen Island Sink, 15.9 ppb, replaced and retest

Custodial Closet Sink, 22.1 ppb, post non-potable

Rm 113 Sink, 111 ppb, replaced and retest

Custodial Closet Sink, 56.4 ppb, post non-potable

In the past few weeks in accordance with regulations, we have tested all of our elementary buildings and have taken any corrective actions necessary. At this time, testing is being conducted in the middle and high schools and as soon as results are back from the laboratory, parents and staff members will receive notification.

The West Seneca Central School District last conducted testing for lead in the water in 2004. The District will be conducting complete testing for lead on a five-year cycle from this point forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph M. Farr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long vertical stroke on the left side.

Joseph M. Farr  
Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds  
West Seneca Central School District