

December 22, 2022

Subject: Water Testing

Dear Parents and Guardians,

New Hampshire law (RSA 485:17-a) requires all public and nonpublic schools to test for lead in drinking water through three rounds of testing to be completed by July 1, 2024. The law reduced the threshold of lead in water from 15 parts per billion (ppb) to 5 ppb and requires action for any outlets testing at or above that threshold. The law also requires schools to notify families if any tests exceed 5 ppb.

Hillsboro-Deering Middle School recently completed its second round of testing. Testing was completed in two parts since half the test samples were lost in the mail. We sent an earlier letter related to the initial results, but this letter pertains to the overall testing (results from both parts).

Lead is a heavy metal that has a range of adverse health effects if ingested. Lead typically enters drinking water due to the wearing away of piping, faucets, fixtures, and other plumbing materials. Because lead is tasteless, odorless, and colorless, testing is the only way to determine if lead is present. It is important to sample each outlet since test results can vary between locations.

During our testing, we collected samples from 25 outlets (e.g., drinking fountains, classroom faucets, kitchen sinks), with seven samples testing at or above 5 ppb. We removed access to these seven outlets until the problem can be corrected. The table below shows a list of all the tested outlets, their locations, sample results, and our planned remediation. Highlighted results are outlets that tested over the limit.

Outlet Number	Location	Outlet Type	Sample Result (ppb)	Planned Remediation
1	D218A – Main Office	Office Faucet	17.6	Handwashing Only
2	D212A – Nurse’s Office	Nurse’s Faucet	7.56	Handwashing Only
3	Main Office Hallway – Right	Drinking Fountain	5.93	Shut off – replace if needed
4	Main Office Hallway – Left	Drinking Fountain	4.84	Shut off – replace if needed
5	8 th Grade Hallway – Right	Drinking Fountain	1.38	-
6	8 th Grade Hallway – Left	Drinking Fountain	1.74	-
7	7 th Grade Hallway – Right	Drinking Fountain	.943	-
8	7 th Grade Hallway – Left	Drinking Fountain	1.18	-
9	Music Room Hallway – Right	Drinking Fountain	1.54	-
10	Music Room Hallway – Left	Drinking Fountain	1.75	-
11	Tech Ed Hallway – Right	Drinking Fountain	1.17	-
12	Tech Ed Hallway – Left	Drinking Fountain	1.15	-
13	FCS Room - #1	Classroom Faucet	2.90	-
14	FCS Room - #2	Classroom Faucet	5.54	Fixture Replacement
15	FCS Room - #3	Classroom Faucet	6.17	Fixture Replacement

Outlet Number	Location	Outlet Type	Sample Result (ppb)	Planned Remediation
16	FCS Room - #4	Classroom Faucet	4.05	Fixture Replacement
17	FCS Room - #5	Classroom Faucet	5.33	Fixture Replacement
18	6 th Grade Hallway – Right	Drinking Fountain	1.41	-
19	6 th Grade Hallway – Left	Drinking Fountain	1.92	-
20	Locker Room Lobby	Drinking Fountain	1.27	-
21	Locker Room Lobby	Drinking Fountain	0.00	-
22	Kitchen	Kitchen Faucet	1.04	-
23	Kitchen – Skillet Fill	Equipment Faucet	67	Not in Use – permanently shut off
24	Cafeteria	Drinking Fountain	.814	-
25	Cafeteria	Drinking Fountain	.647	-

All sample results and additional resources from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) can be viewed at gettheleadoutnh.org.

We will continue our efforts to remediate lead at school and encourage you to test the water in your homes.

Sincerely,

Marc Peterson
Principal