

June 21, 2024

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.

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.

Hillsboro-Deering Elementary School recently completed its third round of testing. During our testing, we collected samples from 15 water outlets (e.g., drinking fountains, faucets, kitchen sinks), with one sample testing at or above 5 ppb. We removed or limited access to the one outlet. The table below shows a list of all the tested outlets, their locations, sample results and our planned remediation. The highlighted result is the outlet that tested over the limit of 5 ppb. The outlet in question is a faucet in the Nurse's Office that has been marked and designated for handwashing only.

Outlet ID	Location	Outlet Type	Result (ppb)	Planned Remediation
20955-1	Staff Room	Kitchen Faucet	3.53	
20955-4	Gym Hall - Right	Drinking Fountain	< 0.4	
20955-5	Gym Hall - Left	Drinking Fountain	0.474	
20955-6	114	Classroom Faucet	2.29	
20955-7	115	Classroom Faucet	2.16	
20955-12	120	Nurse's Sink	6.54	Handwashing Only
20955-22	124 - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	0.782	
20955-26	127 - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	1.19	
20955-33	100 - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	2.78	
20955-34	100 - Right	Drinking Fountain	< 0.4	
20955-35	100 - Left	Drinking Fountain	< 0.4	
20955-37	100a - Left	Kitchen Faucet	2.15	
20955-40	206	Drinking Fountain	1.30	
20955-42	334	Drinking Fountain	< 0.4	
20955-43	142	Drinking Fountain	0.578	

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,
//signed//
Robin Whitney
Nicole Barton
Principals