

December 22, 2022

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 second round of testing. During our testing, we collected samples from 43 drinking water outlets (e.g., drinking fountains, classroom faucets, kitchen sinks), with 28 samples testing at or above 5 ppb. Half of those outlets were within the previous threshold of 15 ppb.

We removed or limited access to these 28 outlets until the problems 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 of 5 ppb. In most cases, the outlets in question are classroom faucets that are not intended to be used as a source of drinking water. These faucets are marked and designated for handwashing only.

Outlet Number	Location	Outlet Type	Sample Result (ppb)	Planned Remediation
1	Staff Room	Kitchen Faucet	4.90	-
2	Room 136	Bathroom Faucet	12.1	Handwashing Only
3	Gym	Drinking Fountain	6.02	Shut off – replace if needed
4	Gym Hall - Right	Drinking Fountain	.568	-
5	Gym Hall - Left	Drinking Fountain	.660	-
6	Room 114	Classroom Faucet	2.36	Handwashing Only
7	Room 115	Classroom Faucet	1.36	Handwashing Only
8	Room 116	Classroom Faucet	6.95	Handwashing Only
9	Room 117	Classroom Faucet	18.7	Handwashing Only
10	Room 118	Classroom Faucet	6.94	Handwashing Only
11	Room 119	Classroom Faucet	12.1	Handwashing Only
12	Room 120	Classroom Faucet	3.74	Handwashing Only
13	Room 101	Classroom Faucet	7.08	Handwashing Only
14	Room 102	Classroom Faucet	10.3	Handwashing Only
15	Room 103	Classroom Faucet	15.5	Handwashing Only
16	Room 106	Classroom Faucet	9.57	Handwashing Only
17	Room 107	Classroom Faucet	19.2	Handwashing Only

Outlet Number	Location	Outlet Type	Sample Result (ppb)	Planned Remediation
18	Room 108	Bathroom Faucet	5.90	Handwashing Only
19	Room 122	Classroom Faucet	22.1	Handwashing Only
20	Room 123	Classroom Faucet	14.8	Handwashing Only
21	Room 124	Classroom Faucet	5.08	Handwashing Only
22	Room 124 - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	.574	-
23	Room 125	Classroom Faucet	18.9	Handwashing Only
24	Room 126	Classroom Faucet	21.6	Handwashing Only
25	Room 127	Classroom Faucet	5.79	Handwashing Only
26	Room 127 - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	.551	-
27	Room 128	Classroom Faucet	20.0	Handwashing Only
28	Room 129	Classroom Faucet	19.0	Handwashing Only
29	Room 130	Classroom Faucet	19.1	Handwashing Only
30	Room 132	Classroom Faucet	24.6	Handwashing Only
31	Room 133	Classroom Faucet	15.0	Handwashing Only
32	Room 134	Classroom Faucet	20.2	Handwashing Only
33	Cafeteria - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	1.42	-
34	Cafeteria - Right	Drinking Fountain	.406	-
35	Cafeteria - Left	Drinking Fountain	.400	-
36	Kitchen - Right	Kitchen Faucet	9.92	Fixture Replacement
37	Kitchen - Left	Kitchen Faucet	0.00	-
38	Kitchen	Kitchen Faucet	8.43	Fixture Replacement
39	Kettle Fill	Kitchen Faucet	25.3	Not in use – permanently shut off
40	Room 206 - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	3.37	-
41	Room 334	Kitchen Faucet	46.2	Handwashing Only
42	Room 334	Drinking Fountain	0.00	-
43	Room 142 - Hallway	Drinking Fountain	1.03	-

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,

Robin Whitney
 Craig Roach