

Roxbury Township Public Schools

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Dear Parents and Staff:

Our school system is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, Agra Environmental & Laboratory Services tested our schools' drinking water for lead.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Agra completed a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within the Roxbury School District. Through this effort, Agra identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 199 samples taken, all but 7 tested below the lead action level of 15 parts per billion (15 µg/l [ppb]) established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water.

The table(s) below identify the drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead, the actual lead level, and what immediate remedial action the Roxbury School District has taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations in accordance with the Department of Education regulations. This has included turning off the outlet unless it was determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign was posted.

In the coming weeks, we will be working on solutions to maintain a reduced lead level in these areas and conduct follow up testing. Only after appropriate remedial measures have been completed and follow up testing completed, will the locations to be placed back into service.

Roxbury High School

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Outside Concession Stand Left Sink RHS-CS-Concession Stand-01	2276	Disconnected sink or Posted signage “DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY A 2nd sink is located within the concession stand for use.

Jefferson School

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 22 Drinking Fountain Bubbler JES-FB-22	17.9	Disconnected drinking fountain Additional drinking fountains are in hallway for use.
Room 07 Drinking Fountain Bubbler JES-FB-07	19.9	Disconnected drinking fountain Additional drinking fountains are in hallway for use.

Lincoln Roosevelt School

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
PE Office Men's Sink LRS-SO-PE Office Men's	16.1	Disconnected sink or Posted signage “DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY Additional sink located in faculty lounge if needed
Hallway by Room 208 Drinking Fountain Bubbler LRS-FB-HW by 208	87.2	Disconnected drinking fountain Additional drinking fountains are in hallway for use.

Kennedy School

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 18 Drinking Fountain Bubbler KES-FB-18	24.2	Disconnected drinking fountain Additional drinking fountains are in hallway for use.
Room 17 Drinking Fountain Bubbler KES-FB-17	23.1	Disconnected drinking fountain Additional drinking fountains are in hallway for use.

Eisenhower School

All drinking water outlet locations tested below the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]).

Franklin School

All drinking water outlet locations tested below the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]).

Nixon School

All drinking water outlet locations tested below the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]).

Health Effects of Lead

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years of age. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very* high levels, lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

How Lead Enters our Water

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. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

For More Information

A copy of the test results is available in our central office at each school for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents, and can be viewed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The results are also available on our website at www.roxbury.org. For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Mr. John Eschmann, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds at 973-584-1136.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider. If you are concerned about lead exposure at our school facilities or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

We want to thank our facilities team for working swiftly to ensure that the lead levels in the water sources highlighted by Agra adhere to the guidelines set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. We are committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for our students and staff.

Sincerely,



Loretta L. Radulic
Superintendent of Schools