

Important Notice on Water Testing

October 17, 2016

Dear Members of the Irvington Community,

As you may already be aware, the District underwent testing for lead in the water this past school year. With the safety of all students and staff in mind, the District took proactive action ahead of the new legislation requiring districts to conduct this type of testing.

As of September, New York State legislation requires all school districts to test all water sources for lead contamination. At the beginning of this school year, the District tested every faucet at Dows Lane and Main Street Schools. The results received on October 13th revealed that seven of the 118 faucets tested at Dows Lane were above the acceptable limit, and at Main Street School, five of the 28 faucets tested were above the acceptable limit. All faucets above the acceptable limit were taken out of service until remediation can be achieved. **We are pleased to report that all of our drinking fountains were found to be within the acceptable limits.**

At Dows Lane, five of the seven faucets above the limit were bathroom sinks in classrooms, which are rarely used. These classrooms all have a secondary sink outside the bathroom door that is used for hand washing. Additionally, one of the three sinks in the library tested above the limit, as did a sink in the cafeteria that is not used for food preparation but for washing pots. All locations have been taken offline.

At Main Street School, two of the five affected sources were classroom sinks and have been taken out of service. The other three are located in the bathrooms in the gymnasium and, due to their location, cannot be easily shut down, as there would be no way for someone to wash his or her hands after bathroom use. Therefore, these bathrooms will be closed until remediation is performed.

With the help of a consultant, the District will develop a full remediation plan. We are currently awaiting the test results from our other buildings at the Middle School-High School Campus and will update you once we have them. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carol Stein, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations, at 914-591-9780.

Please be assured that we will continue to take all steps necessary to protect the health of all members of the school community. We thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,



Kristopher Harrison, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools