



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

Operations Division

Office of Environmental Management and Services
440 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19130
215-400-4750

June 1, 2021

Dear **Howe Elementary School** Community,

As part of the School District of Philadelphia's effort to provide students and staff with safe, accessible and appealing drinking water, your school's water was tested for lead on **May 18, 2021**. A trained technician collected samples from water outlets and the samples were sent to an accredited Pennsylvania laboratory for analysis. The action level used by the District is 10 parts per billion (ppb) of lead. If water exceeded this action level, the drinking water outlet was shut-off immediately and an action plan developed.

Federal studies indicate that children under the age of six are at the highest risk for harmful lead exposure, and children can be exposed to lead from a variety of sources, including paint, soil and even some consumer products. If you are concerned about your child's possible lead exposure risks, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) recommends contacting your pediatrician or neighborhood Health Center for testing. Additionally, PDPH's lead hotline can address any health-related questions you may have or help you in deciding whether to have your child tested; for questions or more information, please call (215) 685-2788. For additional information about lead and children you can visit www.cdc.gov/lead.

There were **14** outlets tested at your school. Of those outlets, **10** outlets produced water that was below the action level of 10 ppb. **Four (4)** water outlets were found to have results above the water safety threshold and these outlets were immediately shut-off.

An action plan is being developed to determine the best way to address the outlet(s) that was shut-off (if applicable to your school), including replacing the outlet with a new hydration station or, if the outlet is not needed because another outlet is available nearby, the outlet may be permanently removed from the school. Once a decision is made, the Maintenance Department will perform the new installation or remove the existing outlet.

The School District will test the drinking water at your school every five years and share the results through a letter and also post the results on the District's website. If you wish to review the results from your school and for more information, you may visit the District's website at: www.philasd.org/waterresults.

Sincerely,

Steve Link
Environmental Director



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Sample Date	Floor	Outlet Number	Outlet Type	Outlet Description	Lead Result (ppb)	MDL	PQL	Action Limits
05/18/2021	3	1	HS	Outside RM 22	<1	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	3	5	WF	Outside RM 20	15.1	NA	1	AA
05/18/2021	2	8	WF	Outside RM 11	19.52	NA	1	AA
05/18/2021	2	10	HS	Outside RM 14	<1	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	2	11	FT	In staff lounge	5.593	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	1	13	FT	In RM 7 BR kindergarten	<1	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	1	14	HS	Outside Main Office	<1	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	1	15	FT	In nurses office	6.676	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	1	17	WF	Across from RM 2	41.79	NA	1	AA
05/18/2021	1	19	FT	In RM 1 special ed	4.23	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	1	20	FT	In RM 1 BR kindergarten	5.359	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	0	23	WF	Outside Girls RM	<1	NA	1	BA
05/18/2021	0	26	WF	Outside boys RM left	13.15	NA	1	AA
05/18/2021	0	31	HS	In cafeteria portable	<1	NA	1	BA

Notes:

AA = Above Action limit of 10 ppb
BA = Below Action limit of 10 ppb
MDL = Method Detection Limit
PQL = Practical Quantitation Limit
J = Result estimated below the PQL
< = not detected above PQL
ppb = parts per billion

Outlet Types:

WF = Water Fountain/Bubbler
HS = Hydration Station/Bottle Filling Station
FT = Faucet/Tap
FP = Food Prep/Pot-Filler/Kitchen Kettle
IM = Ice-Maker
NA = Not Available