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Mary Robinson Cohen, M.A., J.D.
Superintendent and Principal

UPDATED REPORT WITH RESULTS *(as of 3/24/17)*

Dear Parents, Teachers and Members of the Roosevelt Public School District Community,

Concerns throughout the country related to water quality has brought attention to the need for frequent and consistent water quality assessments of all location that dispense water in public spaces. The NJ Department of Education has taken the lead to conduct water quality testing in all public schools at every location that provides water.

The Roosevelt Public School District is committed to protect our students, teachers and staff member's health. To protect our community and to be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, on March 15, 2017, we tested every location that dispenses water in the school.

Ten locations had samples taken throughout our district, all but one (1) outlets tested below the lead action established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPS) for lead in drinking water (15 ug/1 parts per billion [ppb]).

All locations with levels higher than 15 parts per billion (ppb) require remediation, retesting or removal.		
SCHOOL NAME: ROOSEVELT PUBLIC SCHOOL		
SAMPLE LOCATION	INITIAL WATER QUALITY FINDINGS	DISTRICT RESPONSE
Nurse's Office Sink Bubbler	29.6	Water isolated; bubbler to be replaced.

For your information about what we should know regarding the effects of lead in the water supply, please read the information below.

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 your children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduced 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 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 from Mr. Michael Coolidge, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds at 732-786-0950 Ext. 70001 between 8am and 3pm, for inspection by the public, including students, teachers and other school personnel.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit ERA's web site at www.us.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,

Mary Robinson-Cohen
Superintendent of Schools/Principal

MRC/nlo