

GLEN ROCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Paula Valenti, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools
valentip@glenrocknj.org



620 Harristown Road
Glen Rock, NJ 07452-2398
(201) 445-7700 ext. 8950
Fax (201) 389-5019

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Glen Rock Board of Education
620 Harristown Road
Glen Rock, NJ 07452

Dear Educational Community,

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, Glen Rock Board of Education tested our schools' drinking water for lead over the recent spring recess. The district has received the results and is sharing that information with you along with the corrective actions that will address the facility points of contact where remediation is required.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, all schools will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ (parts per billion [ppb]). This includes turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within Glen Rock Board of Education. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 194 samples taken, all but 25 tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ [ppb]).

The table below identifies the drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ for lead, the actual lead level, and what temporary remedial action Glen Rock Board of Education has taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

| Sample Location | First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb) | Remedial Action |
|--|--|--|
| Byrd Elementary School Boiler Room ID #17-04-02339-021 | 527 | This location is in the boiler room which is not a drinking source. A sign will be hung over the source. |
| Central Elementary School Rm 101 Sink ID #17-04-02301-002 | 145 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Central Elementary School Rm 101 Bubbler ID #17-04-02301-001 | 241 | The bubbler on the sink will be turned off and removed. |
| Central Elementary School Rm 210 Sink ID #17-04-02301-016 | 25.6 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 4A Sink ID #17-04-02277-002 | 15.3 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 4A Bubbler ID #17-04-02277-003 | 15.7 | The bubbler in the room will be shut down. |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 3 Bubbler ID #17-04-02277-007 | 17.6 | The bubbler in the room will be shut down. |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 3 Sink ID #17-04-02277-008 | 18.1 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 1 Bubbler ID #17-04-02277-013 | 18.9 | The bubbler in the room will be shut down. |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 8 Sink ID #17-04-02277-016 | 78.5 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 9 Sink ID #17-04-02277-021 | 15.9 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Hallway Water Fountain #5 Hall 11 B ID #17-04-02277-022 | 41.4 | Water Fountain will be turned off until a 2 nd draw test can be done on the water fountain. |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 11 Sink ID #17-04-02277-023 | 44.1 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |

| Sample Location | First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb) | Remedial Action |
|---|--|--|
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 15 Sink ID #17-04-02277-026 | 16.3 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 17 Sink ID #17-04-02277-029 | 25.4 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Rm 18 Sink ID #17-04-02277-031 | 21.8 | Sink will be used for handwashing only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Coleman Elementary School Water Fountain #1 Hall Nurse B ID #17-04-02277-035 | 17.1 | Water Fountain will be turned off until a 2 nd draw test can be done on the water fountain. |
| Coleman Elementary School K-1 Bubbler ID #17-04-02277-041 | 29.3 | The bubbler in the room will be shut down. |
| Coleman Elementary School Boiler Rm ID #17-04-02277-043 | 18.8 | This location is in the boiler room which is not a drinking source. A sign will be hung over the source. |
| Hamilton Elementary School Boiler Rm ID #17-04-02346-036 | 19.8 | This location is in the boiler room which is not a drinking source. A sign will be hung over the source. |
| Middle/High School Kitchen Cookie Rm Sink ID #17-04-02351-005 | 32.7 | Sink is used for washing dishes only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK-SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Middle/High School Kitchen Cookie Rm Sink ID #17-04-02351-006 | 22.9 | Sink is used for washing dishes only. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK-SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" |
| Middle/High School Kitchen Pot Filler (PF) ID #17-04-02351-010 | 846 | Pot Filler will be turned off until a filter can be installed on it. |
| Middle/High School Rm D110 Bubbler ID #17-04-02351-033 | 1960 | The bubbler in the room will be shut down. |

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 business/central office 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 reports are also available on our website: www.glenrocknj.org. For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Sandy Marinos, Supervisor of Facilities by calling: 201-445-7700 (ext. 8927).

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit the EPA 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 this facility, or in your home, you may want to ask your health care provider about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paula Valenti
Superintendent of Schools

PV:kr

C: Michael Rinderknecht,
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Sandy Marinos,
Supervisor, Buildings & Grounds
New Jersey Department of Education
via email at leadtesting@doe.state.nj.us