



Pulaski Academy and Central School

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Dr. Brian K. Hartwell
Superintendent of Schools

October 21, 2016

Dear Lura Sharp community members:

I am writing to provide the most recent update on the testing process for high lead levels in our water. Last May I sent a letter home indicating that the nine component districts that comprise Oswego County were proactively working in conjunction with CiTi BOCES and a third party vendor to test our District's drinking fountains, ice machines and outlets used in food preparation, etc. On September 9th a subsequent letter was sent home updating everyone on the process and identifying only two outlets in our school district with lead levels over the Environmental Protection Agency's threshold of 20 parts per billion. Those two particular outlets are in the School Based Health Center at Lura Sharp and had their faucets changed accordingly.

Also, in early September Governor Cuomo signed landmark legislation mandating that schools in New York State test drinking water for lead contamination. As a county, we felt good about our proactive approach that preceded the new mandate. The new regulations that followed, however, have made it necessary for us to test additional outlets that did not meet our initial criteria over the summer. Additionally, the new regulations lowered the EPA's threshold of 20 parts per billion to 15 parts per billion.

Given this new mandate and set of regulations we tested the remainder of the outlets (mostly bathroom sinks, classroom sinks, utility sinks) at Lura M. Sharp prior to the September 30th NYSDOH/NYSED deadline. Now that all testing is complete, I am happy to report that Lura Sharp is very fortunate that none of the nine outlets identified to be over the threshold were our hallway's drinking fountains or in the kitchen or food preparation areas. The nine outlets consist of:

- 3 – Bathroom sinks
- 2 – Exam room sinks (SBHC)
- 2 – Utility sinks
- 2 – Classroom sinks (Room 107)

Signage indicating that water from "this" outlet is not for drinking will be provided for these areas from CiTi. Remediation plans for many of these areas is already underway. The remaining outlets in our other buildings are scheduled to be tested next week (again ahead of the deadline) with the results to follow a few weeks after. I will follow up accordingly with those buildings at that time. Once complete, a final update will appear on the District's website.

Providing our students, staff and community with a safe and secure environment conducive to teaching and learning is central to our mission and vision. Thank you for your continued support!

All the best,

Brian