

February 12, 2020

Dear Harpursville Community Member:

The Harpursville Central School District is committed to providing a safe, secure learning environment for our students. As part of this commitment, we continue to comply with the New York State Department of Health regulations regarding lead testing in school water supplies.

The state regulations signed into law by Governor Cuomo on September 6, 2016 require that an “action plan” be developed for any outlet where lead levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb) were found. *Outlet* means any water supply (fountain, faucet, etc.) which is used, or may potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. Final regulations signed May 9, 2018 requires that testing be completed every 5 years, beginning in 2020.

At this point in time, we’ve received the testing results for Jr. Sr. High School and we wanted to get the results to you as quickly as possible. In the Jr. Sr. High, there were 105 designated water outlets tested within the time-frame required by New York State and in conformity with testing standards. About 80 percent (84 out of 105) of the outlets tested were found to be below the New York State threshold for action. **All drinking fountains, the ice machine, and all fixtures used for the preparation of food for our students tested below the limit. That’s good news!** The fixtures that tested above the threshold were faucets at sinks for handwashing or project clean-up. For the affected outlets, flushing these particular faucets on a daily basis and signage at each affected station are appropriate solutions and acceptable by the New York State Department of Health. We are in the process of following up with additional testing to determine any further steps that need to be taken. We will remain vigilant in our effort to mitigate these issues long-term and we will follow all requirements and guidelines related to this mandate to ensure the safety and health of our students, staff, and public.

It is important to note that the well sources of water in the district are regularly tested and meet all safety standards. In addition, a copy of our test results is available on our website. If you would like more information on this topic, you can find NYSDOH guidance at: https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/lead_testing_of_school_drinking_water.htm, contact the Broome County Health Department at 607.778.3930, or contact the district office at 607.693.8112.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Rullo
Superintendent of Schools