

2/2/16

To the Students, Families, and Staff of *Carver Middle High School*

Based on the last round of sampling some water taps at our school had lead levels that exceeded the Massachusetts and federal “action level for lead in drinking water at schools and child care facilities.” See sample results below. The Massachusetts Action Level for lead in drinking water is 0.015 milligrams per liter (also known as parts per million).

We would like to inform you about our plans to reduce potential exposure to lead in drinking water at our school. Lead is not believed to be in our water source but plumbing and fixtures in our buildings may contain lead, resulting in an increase in the lead content in tap water. Exposure to lead is a concern because lead is a toxic metal that has a range of adverse health effects.

Sampling Results		
Date Sample Collected	Location	Lead result in mg/L
9/24/2015	Room B210-Sink	0.027
9/24/2015	Tech Ed Room Sink	0.017
9/24/2015	Room B209-Sink	0.021
9/24/2015	High School Gym Fountain	0.036

The administration takes these results very seriously and is moving immediately to safeguard the health of the students, faculty and staff. The following information describes steps we are taking to address the issue of lead in the water.

To safeguard our students and other sensitive individuals (including woman who are pregnant or nursing), our school is working closely and cooperatively with MassDEP and taking actions as follows:

What we are doing:

1. While exceeding the action level does not require provision of alternative drinking water sources, beginning February 2, 2016 we will be providing bottled water and will be shutting down all bubblers.
2. We have removed from service all taps with lead levels over the action level.
3. We are implementing a public information process that will include distribution of outreach material to all students, parents, teachers, staff and local officials.
4. We have developed a sampling plan to conduct testing at outlets (faucets, water fountains, etc.) where students and staff get water for drinking, beverage prep and cooking.
5. We are implementing a flushing and water usage plan to safeguard against lead exposure from drinking water in the school at sources that are found to be above the MassDEP “action level” for lead. This includes the daily flushing of water fountains and/or faucets at sinks and the limitation of water consumption to cold-water faucets for food and beverage preparation.

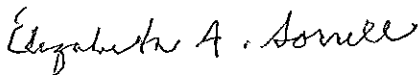
6. We will undertake efforts to determine the cause of this lead action level exceedance and evaluate the adequacy of our existing corrosion control, lead treatment system. We will develop and put into place a corrective action plan as quickly as possible following additional testing and consultation.
7. Through periodic reports, we will keep you informed as to the progress of our efforts. These reports will serve to let you know what has been done and what is being done to safeguard against lead exposure from drinking water at our Carver Middle High School

A Reminder: The water system at the school is not unlike water systems found in other buildings. Older plumbing systems and fixtures, especially, can contain lead pipes or solder that can allow lead to enter tap water. If you have questions about lead in your home's water supply, and are using a private well, you can have your water tested. If you are receiving water from a public water system (i.e., if you pay a water bill) you can call your local water department for information or check the Consumer Confidence Report sent out by the public water supplier annually.

If you have any questions on this information please David Siedentopf at 508-866-6106

Sincerely,


David Siedentopf
Director of Facilities


Elizabeth A. Sorrell
Superintendent