



New Lebanon
Central School
District

December 8, 2016

Dear Families:

In September, the Governor enacted a law requiring public schools to test for lead in all water sources. In compliance with the law, all water outlets in the Jr/Sr High School were tested by the end of November. We just received those results.

In the JSHS we tested water from 90 outlets. All the drinking fountains and the water used in food preparation in our kitchen tested safely below the 15 parts per billion threshold established by NY State.

Of the 90 outlets, 50 outlets tested above 15 ppb. Those locations were in the home & careers classroom, science labs, locker rooms and kitchen. In home and careers, the sinks are now disabled and the plumbing will be replaced prior to retesting and putting the outlets back into use. In the kitchen, the two sinks that tested above 15ppb were not currently in use and have been disabled.

As was the case with most areas schools, the sinks in the science labs tested above the 15ppb threshold and comprised most of the high ratings. This is because those sinks were never expected to provide drinking water. In the science labs and in the locker room bathroom sinks, we have labeled the outlets that tested above 15ppb "not potable water/not for drinking." In compliance with health department guidelines, these sinks can remain available for hand washing and classroom use with this label.

We are in the early stages of addressing the outlets that tested above 15ppb, and may find that in addition to fixtures, we may have to replace additional plumbing components.

The full report for the JSHS water outlets is posted on the District tab of our website alongside this article, under policies, plans and notices.

If you are interested in learning more about the safety issues surrounding lead in drinking water, the New York State Department of Health website is loaded with information:

<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2508/>

As always, maintaining safe schools is our highest priority. We will keep you informed as we have updates and will post them to the website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leslie Whitcomb".

Leslie Whitcomb



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