



May 11, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff:

On September 6, 2016, Governor Cuomo signed new legislation requiring the testing of drinking water in New York Schools for lead levels. As a result of this legislation, we contacted the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Safety Office and requested testing of applicable water fixtures for lead. The Safety Office is providing a full, comprehensive report of the sampling program, which includes a building survey of source locations, sampling, reporting, and follow-up assistance.

There were 126 water fixtures (drinking fountains, sinks, mop sinks, etc.) tested at the Louis V. Denti Elementary building on 4/21/2021. Of the 126 samples 3 showed lead levels at or above the allowable 15 ppb (parts per billion). The sources were located were one Classroom Sink in room 150; one Classroom Sink in Room 155; and one handwash near dishwasher in kitchen.

Safe and healthy school environments can foster healthy and successful children. To protect public health, the Public Health Law and New York State Health Department (NYSDOH) regulations require that all public schools and boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) test lead levels in water from every outlet that is being used, or could potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), which is equal to 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), the NYSDOH requires that the school take action to reduce the exposure to lead.

We have remediated the problem areas by temporarily posting signage that alerts students and staff to avoid drinking the water from this source. Our maintenance department will be taking steps to correct the affected areas. Once these areas have been corrected, re-testing will then take place and results should be available within 4 to 6 weeks. We will send a second letter to you regarding those results, and post them on our website as well.

You can review a copy of our first set of water testing results at the school District Office, which is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., or on our website at <http://www.romecsd.org>. For more information about water quality in our schools, please contact Alex Rodriguez at 315-334-7270. For information about water quality and sampling for lead in your home, contact your local water supplier or visit www.leadfreemv.org. See back for additional resources.

Sincerely,

Alex Rodriguez
Director of Facilities III



Additional Resources

For more information regarding the testing program or sampling results, contact Alex Rodriguez, Director of Facilities III at 315-334-7270, or go to our school website: <https://romecsd.org/>

For information about lead in school drinking water, go to:

http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/lead_testing_of_school_drinking_water.htm

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/facplan/LeadTestinginSchoolDrinkingWater.html>

For information about NYS Department of Health Lead Poisoning Prevention, go to:

<http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/>

For more information on blood lead testing and ways to reduce your child's risk of exposure to lead, see "What Your Child's Blood Lead Test Means":

<http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2526/> (available in ten languages).