



# Hebron Public Schools



High Expectations, Bright Futures

*Office of the Superintendent*

580 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248 ▪ Tel: (860) 228-2577 ▪ Fax: (860)-228-2235 ▪ [www.hebron.k12.ct.us](http://www.hebron.k12.ct.us)

*Timothy Van Tassel*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

*Donald Briere, Ph.D.*  
*Director of Educational Services*

## \*\*\*\*\* Lead Water Issue Update \*\*\*\*\*

February 11, 2019

Dear Parents, Staff, and Community Residents:

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide another update regarding the Hebron Elementary School lead water issue. As noted since November 2016, the Hebron Public Schools have been addressing a lead contamination issue in the Hebron Elementary School domestic water system. We have discontinued the use of drinking water, installed a zinc-orthophosphate system, implemented an approved flushing protocol, and have fulfilled all sampling requirements as required by the administrative agreement with the DPH. With this being said, we have been unsuccessful in preventing lead from leaching into the potable water system.

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, the Board of Selectmen formally appointed a building committee for the purposes of addressing the lead water issue. The function of this committee is to develop a remediation plan that will resolve the lead contamination issue. Since the appointment of the HES Water Remediation Building Committee, they have been meeting bi-weekly and the following provides a brief timeline of steps taken to-date:

- November and December 2018 Research, Communications, and Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Development and Posting;
- January 4, 2019 RFQ Walkthrough with interested Architectural/Engineering firms;
- January 18, 2019 Submission of Senate Bill 00143 (Joint submission by Senator Catherine Osten and Representative Robin Green) "To provide financial assistance to Hebron to replace the contaminated water lines in Hebron Elementary School and bring the level of lead contamination to zero;"
- January 22, 2019 RFQ Opening (two firms submitted responses, both were subsequently qualified as potential proposers);
- January 29, 2019 RFP Development by HES Water Remediation Committee;
- February 1, 2019 Department of Administrative Services meeting with Department of Public Health and HES Water Remediation Building Committee representatives;
- February 5, 2019 RFP provided to both firms that were qualified on January 22, 2019;
- February 7, 2019 HES Water Remediation Building Committee update to Board of Selectmen.

The following are a synopsis of the next steps in the process:

- February 13, 2019 HES Water Remediation Committee to interview firms submitting RFP Fee Proposals;
- February 20, 2019 HES Water Remediation Committee selects Architectural/Engineering Firm for Recommendation to Board of Selectmen;
- February 21, 2019 HES Water Remediation Committee meets to determine recommendation of Architectural/Engineering Firm to Board of Selectmen.
- February/March 2019 Proposal considered by Board of Selectmen for project design phase to begin.

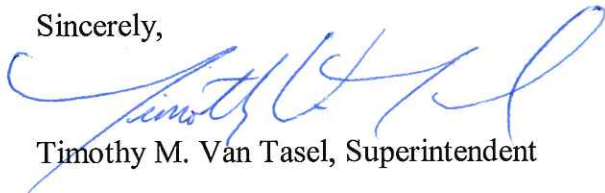
In researching the contamination issues, the HES Water Remediation Committee is now considering replacement of the entire domestic water distribution system at Hebron Elementary School. Water testing has revealed that lead contamination is not restricted to the areas that pre-dated the 1960's addition, which suggests that the lead has circulated throughout the system. There is a concern that recontamination might occur if it is not replaced in its entirety.

At this moment, and due to the broadening scope, the processes associated with project design and approval, cost estimates, and timelines remains a work in progress. As noted in previous communications, the domestic water has been discontinued for consumption purposes. This will remain in effect until the lead contamination issue is resolved.

With this being said, the HES Water Remediation Committee recognizes the urgency of addressing the issue at Hebron Elementary School. As this update suggests, a great deal has been accomplished to-date and we are tremendously appreciative of the priority this project has become. The HES Water Remediation Committee and liaisons, the Department of Public Health, and the Department of Administrative Services are all working in partnership to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and the community at-large.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact Mr. Malcolm Leichter (mleichter@hebronct.com), Chair of the Hebron Elementary School Water Remediation Committee or me.

Sincerely,



Timothy M. Van Tasel, Superintendent