

Wheelerville Union Free School District

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November 2, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is a follow-up to the letter that I sent this past Monday, October 31st. As you are aware we took water samples from all drinking fountains, room sink faucets and kitchen faucets on September 18th. The guidance from the New York State Department of Health allowed for some interpretation on whether all water outlets had to be tested or only drinking fountains. We felt that it would be best to test all water outlets that students had access to and therefore we tested a total of 48, with only 4 of those being drinking fountains. The samples were tested for lead by JH Consulting Group and the results were received by the district on October 31, 2016.

The results were provided to the District and it was explained to us that of the 48 total samples collected and tested that only 6 samples tested above the lead levels of 15 parts per billion allowed by New York State. The information provided was incorrect based on the conversion of the samples and the District actually has 24 faucets that tested above the lead levels. The sources of water that tested positive are only in faucets and none of them have been used by students as a source for drinking water. We have followed the guidance provided and have either shut off all of the faucets or placed signs stating "Use for handwashing only." The District has now ordered additional lead-free faucets to be installed on all faucets above the limit. I want to make note again that all of the drinking fountains in the school are safe to use and they tested well-below the allowable limit, including the water fountains with the additional water filters.

I want to apologize for providing information that we found out later was incorrect and I welcome any questions or concerns you have regarding our plan for remediation. Please feel free to contact me at 518-835-2171.

Sincerely,


Rich Ruberti, Superintendent