



Perth Amboy Public Schools

Administrative Headquarters Building

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Derek J. Jess

School Business Administrator

Board Secretary

May 11, 2017

Edward J. Patten Elementary School

500 Charles Street

Perth Amboy, NJ 08861

Dear Patten School Community,

The Perth Amboy Board of Education is committed to protecting the health of our students, teachers and staff. To protect our community and be in compliance with the New Jersey Department of Education regulations, the District tested our schools' drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the New Jersey Department of Education regulations, Patten Elementary School will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the Lead Action Level of 15.5 µg/l (Parts Per Billion [PPB]). This includes turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

Patten Elementary School Testing

The District completed a plumbing profile for each of its buildings. Through this effort, Patten Elementary School identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 72 samples taken, all but one (1) tested below the Lead Action Level established by the USDOE for lead in drinking water (15.5 PPB). This fixture was immediately taken out of service and will be remediated prior to being placed back into service.

How Lead Enters our Water

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like groundwater, rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and in building plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass, and chrome-plated brass faucets. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials. However, even the lead in plumbing materials meeting these new requirements is subject to corrosion. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

For More Information

For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Nicholas Crupi, Director of Buildings and Grounds, at 732- 376-6200.

Very truly yours,



Derek J. Jess
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Perth Amboy Board of Education