



Fort Ann Central School District

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Mr. Kevin A. Froats, Superintendent

October 19, 2016

Dear Parents:

The health and safety of students and staff at the Fort Ann Central School District is our top priority. I am writing to update you on a recent issue related to that.

As you may have heard, on September 6, 2016, Governor Cuomo signed legislation that requires all public schools in New York State to test all potable water sources for lead. As a result, the District contracted with Pace Analytical to collect water samples in accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 3-T's protocol. Pace Analytical is certified by the New York State Department of Health.

On the morning of September 26, 2016 a total of 183 sources of water were collected and then analyzed at Pace Analytical Laboratory. The District obtained results on October 18, 2016. 74.3% of the potable water sources passed inspection and 25.7% had lead levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), which is the "action level" established by the new state regulations. These results are not surprising due to the age of some of our infrastructure; many Districts throughout New York State are experiencing similar results. In regard to the sources with elevated levels, upon receiving the analytical results the District took immediate action by bagging fountains, faucets, shutting off the source of water and by posting signage and pictures (sample sign can be viewed on the District's website).

We have reported the test results to our local health department. The District is in the process of preparing a lead remediation plan to mitigate lead levels of such outlets. Water sources that have tested higher than the allowable MCL have been marked for corrective action. Corrective actions include the removal and replacement of faulty appliances and or water supply lines.

There is nothing we take more seriously than the well-being of our students and staff. We will keep you informed as we work through our lead remediation plan. Please contact me if you have any questions.

For More Information

The following resources provide additional information about water testing for schools:

- New York State Department of Health Regulations for new water testing law

<https://governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-signs-landmark-legislation-test-drinking-water-new-york-schools-lead>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, "Basic Information About Lead in Drinking Water"
<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

- U.S. Environmental protection Agency, "The Three T's for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools"

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-09/documents/toolkit_leadschools_guide_3ts_leadschools.pdf

Sincerely,



Kevin A. Froats
Superintendent of Schools