

May 13, 2022

Dr. Raymond J. Boccuti
Chief School Administrator, Principal
Neptune City Board of Education
210 West Sylvania Avenue
Neptune City, New Jersey 07753

Dear Woodrow Wilson Elementary Community,

Our school system is committed to protecting the health and safety of every student, teacher, and staff member in our community. In service of that goal and to comply with United States Department of Education regulations, Neptune City Board of Education engaged an Environmental Consulting Firm to test our school's drinking water for the presence of lead.

Following instructions provided in Technical Guidance Documents developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile of Woodrow Wilson Elementary School in the Neptune City School District. Through this effort, we identified all drinking water and food preparation outlets present in the building. The Woodrow Wilson Elementary School Plumbing Profile revealed the presence of twenty-seven (27) drinking water outlets throughout the building. Water samples were collected from each identified outlet and analyzed for the presence of lead. Of the twenty-seven (26) outlets sampled, analysis revealed that two (2) outlets exhibited lead levels above the Action Level established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for lead in drinking water of 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/l}$).

The table below summarizes the analytical results from the outlet(s) found to exceed the Action Level and the remedial action undertaken the Neptune City Board of Education to reduce the levels of lead at this location.

Woodrow Wilson Elementary School 210 West Sylvania Avenue Neptune City, New Jersey 07753			
Sample Location	First Draw Result	Second Draw Result	Remedial Action
Point of Entry in Old Boiler Room	94.7	2.35	Investigate Point of Entry/Service Connection for Lead Containing Plumbing Components
Bubbler Fountain in Room A-126	27.3	2.61	Replace Fixture and associated Supply Piping

All results listed in $\mu\text{g/l}$ unless otherwise noted.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, Woodrow Wilson Elementary School will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 $\mu\text{g/l}$ (parts per billion [ppb]). Immediate remedial measures may include disabling the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain operational for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted at the outlet.

Health Effects of Lead

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years of age. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very* high levels, lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure are more susceptible to lead than healthy adults.

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. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

For More Information

A copy of the test results is available in our central office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents. The results can be viewed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and are also available on our website at www.neptunecityschool.org For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Mr. Kevin Folk of the Custodial Services Department at 732-775-5319.

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.

If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Sincerely,

Dr. Raymond J. Boccuti
Chief School Administrator, Principal