



# LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Little Silver School Community:

We are committed to protecting our students' and staff health in all areas. To protect our community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations related to testing for lead in our drinking water, the Little Silver School District tested our drinking water outlets on October 15, 2024.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, we implemented immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a lead result greater than the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]). This includes turning the outlets off unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes.

## **Results of Our Testing:**

A total of 31 drinking water samples were analyzed from all drinking water outlets to which students or staff members have or may have access to.

Of the 31 samples analyzed, all tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/l [ppb]). [Results can be viewed here.](#)

## **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 the body. Exposure to *high levels* of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposures can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduced attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very high levels*, exposure to lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more 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 water distribution systems and in building plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder



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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 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 to 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

## **For More Information:**

A copy of the test results are available in our Central Office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, and other school personnel, and parents, and can be viewed between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM and are also available on our website (to view [click here](#)). For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Rogelio Weekly Rose, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds at 732-741-7112.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit the EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-Lead, or contact your health care provider.

If you are concerns about lead exposure you may want to ask your health care provider about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Be well,

Eric Platt  
Superintendent of Schools