MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

7 HILLSIDE AVENUE
MILFORD NJ 08848

May 6, 2025

Dear Milford Public School Community,

Our school system is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community, in accordance with the Department of Education regulations at N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4, Milford Public School Community tested our schools' drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations Milford Public School Community implemented immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 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.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within Milford Public School Community. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the 12 outlets sampled, (1) first draw sample tested above the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/l [ppb]). Of the (4) follow-up flush samples collected, (0) tested above the lead action level.

The table below identifies the drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead with the associated first draw and follow-up flush sample lead levels, as well as what temporary remedial action Milford Public School has taken or plans to take to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

Sample Location	**First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)**	**Follow-up flush Result in µg/l (ppb)**	**Remedial Action**
Field Blank	ND	ND	None no action taken
MPS 2 Kitchen Faucet	24.9	1.41	Changed Faucet Fixture
MPS 2 Faculty Room Faucet	1.3	5.45	Changed Faucet Fixture
MPS 2 Faculty Room Faucet Sprayer	12.3	2.16	Changed Sprayer Fixture

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Summary of Actions Taken

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(e) 2, summarize actions taken to:

1. *Immediately ended use of each drinking water outlet where any sample result (first draw or flush sample) exceeded the lead action level each high reading - all faucets at sink s - were labeled for handwashing only – no drinking water outlets were affected)*
2. *Removed existing faucet / sprayer heads of sinks and replaced with new fixtures; and*
3. *After replacement of the fixtures, the water outlets were re-tested to ensure compliance.*

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 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 because 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.

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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, and 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.milfordpublicschool.com

For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Michele McCann, School Business Administrator at (908) 996-2941 x 516 or milfordsba@milfordpublicschool.com

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,

Rick Falkenstein
Superintendent of Schools