

July 12, 2021

Dear Staff, Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers:

Every five years the New Paltz Central School District (NPCSD) conducts water testing in our school buildings in accordance with New York State's rigorous safety standards in order to ensure ongoing health and safety of our students and staff.

The District followed protocols set forth by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and utilized the services of the Ulster BOCES Health, Safety, and Risk Management Department to collect samples from sinks, faucets, and water fountains in all four school buildings. The water samples were then sent to EnviroTest Laboratories, Inc., in Newburgh, New York.

The tests were measured against NYSDOH protocol, which sets acceptable lead limits as 15 parts per billion (ppb), which is equal to 15 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ). A total of 342 sources were tested using first-draw method, meaning the water had sat in pipes for at least eight hours prior to sampling. The results are as follows:

Location	Number Tested	Below NYS Standards
NPHS	67	18
NPMS	95	10
Lenape	101	11
Duzine	79	31

Specific results of each water source, labeled by room location, are available for your review on the District website at <https://www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us/Page/9915>.

Upon receipt of the results, water sources used for drinking or cooking that tested above the acceptable levels were immediately taken out of service for remediation. Alternative water sources for these purposes have been provided while the remediation work is conducted. Sources located in restrooms or other areas not typically associated with consumption were labeled with signage indicating the water is not to be used for drinking. Lead is not absorbed through skin contact, so these locations are safe for hand washing.

We have provided our results to the Ulster County Department of Health and a long-term remediation plan is being implemented, which includes replacing fixtures, adding filters, and/or replacing valves and piping. In some instances, we will be closing or permanently removing water outlets that are unneeded or rarely used. In the meantime, please be assured that we are treating this situation very seriously and the water sources will not be returned to service until corrective action has been successful.

Additional information about our testing process and the potential risks of lead in water is attached. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please contact Guy Gardner at (845) 256-4092 or reach out to your or your child's physician.

Sincerely,

*Angela Urbina Medina*

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Superintendent of Schools