



PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

106 Washington Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803

www.pobschools.org

November 2020

To the Members of the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School Community:

The Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District began testing its potable water sources in May 2016. We most recently had our water sources sampled in October 2020. Specifically, the District tested a total of 841 water outlets across nine buildings for the presence of lead. The assessment and testing was performed in accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA's) protocols as recommended in their publication [3T's for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools](#). Of the 841 water outlets, lead levels above the action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) were initially detected in "first draw samples" at 86 of these locations. Of these 86 water sources, 67 faucets are considered "non-potable" sources in places such as restrooms and science labs; meaning that the water from the sources is not intended to be used for consumption or for cooking. These water outlets have been placarded with signs reading "Do Not Drink". Most of the potable water sources that exceeded the action level were in an unused section of the Jamaica Ave. building on the second floor. The water outlets have been removed from service until further investigation, remediation and/or retesting is completed unless the outlet is a sink faucet needed for handwashing. In that case, a sign was posted at the outlet indicating that the sink is not to be used for drinking.

We have posted the results of these tests in summary form and will post the complete lab report as we receive them at our district's website www.pobschools.org. They can be found on the "District Offices" dropdown in the "Business and Finance" tab under the "Water Testing" button. Copies of the most current test results will also be on hand for reference in each school building as we receive them. Safeguarding the health of our District community is our number one priority.

In 2016, the District instituted a flushing protocol in all school district buildings designed to promote more active water flow of our water supply which decreases the likelihood of lead accumulation. Since the 2012-13 school year, the district has been installing filtered, touchless hydration stations. They are in all of our cafeterias and our hallways. We will continue to increase the number of filtered, touchless hydration stations going forward.

You can get additional information on the water testing program in our "Frequently Asked Questions about Lead Testing of School Drinking Water" document. For information on reducing lead in drinking water, including what homeowners can do in their homes, please visit the EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Richard Cunningham, our Assistant Superintendent for Business at 516-434-3050.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary O'Meara

Dr. Mary O'Meara
Superintendent of Schools
Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District