



PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

106 Washington Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803

www.pobschools.org

Dr. Lorna R. Lewis
Superintendent of Schools

June 8, 2016

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

In light of recent quality-of-water issues that have arisen in our region, the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District voluntarily began testing the water at each water fountain and sink in every facility throughout the District for traces of lead. We have hundreds of water samples being analyzed by the district's environmental consultants. To date, we have received verbal reports on test results taken in Parkway Elementary School, Jamaica Avenue School and Pasadena Elementary School. Test results in these three buildings indicate all drinking and potable water sources accessible to students, faculty and visitors meet the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) water quality safety standards.

There were, however, three water sources in the Parkway Elementary School, and one water source in the Jamaica Avenue facility that contained levels of lead higher than the EPA's allowable limits. **It is important to note that none of these four water sources have been used in several years.** Upon notification of these results, each of the four water sources were removed from service, and will remain so. The District is replacing plumbing specific to these water sources and will retest when plumbing work is completed.

As a precaution, the District has instituted a daily flushing protocol in all school district buildings, designed to promote the more active flow of our water supply, which decreases the likelihood of lead accumulation. You should also note that since the 2012-13 school year all of our cafeterias have hydration stations containing a filtration system that is used for daily consumption. We plan on adding more hydration systems immediately to increase access to cold, filtered water.

The District anticipates receiving results for the remaining buildings over the course of the next few weeks. We will report the results of these tests as we receive them on our district's website www.pobschools.org. Copies of the final test results will be posted for public inspection when all test results are complete for each building. Safeguarding the health of our District community is our number one priority

For information on reducing lead in drinking water, including what homeowners can do in their homes, please visit the EPA's website at 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 of Business, at 516-434-3050.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lorna Lewis

Dr. Lorna Lewis
Superintendent of Schools
Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District

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