

December 13, 2024

Mr. Louis Alfano
Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Cliffside Park Board of Education
525 Palisades Avenue
Cliffside Park, New Jersey 07010

For distribution

**RE: Lead in Drinking Water Sampling
Cliffside Park High School**
64 Riverview Avenue
Cliffside Park, New Jersey
EL Project #21-0042

Dear Staff, Parents and Students:

Cliffside Park Public Schools are committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect the Cliffside Park community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, Cliffside Park Board of Education retained Environmental Logic, LLC (EL) to test the school's drinking water for lead.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within the Cliffside Park Public School system was prepared. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets.

The US Environmental Protection Agency has established a lead in drinking water action level of 15 µg/l [ppb]. On July 23, 2024, EL collected drinking water samples throughout the above referenced school.

As detailed on the table below, of the potable water outlets sampled, two first draw samples (a kitchen sink and a drinking fountain) were in exceedance of the US Environmental Protection Agency established lead in drinking water action level of 15 µg/l [ppb].

The kitchen sink faucet was immediately taken out of service. The kitchen sink faucet was replaced, and a follow up sample was collected. No lead was detected in the follow up sample. The drinking fountain was taken out of service.



In addition to drinking water outlets and food preparation sinks, selected sinks were sampled at locations where there was a potential for consumption. One sink in the trainer’s room contained lead above the 15 µg/l action level and should be used for handwashing only.

EL recommended that “DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY” signage be placed at this location as a precautionary measure. Cliffside Park Board of Education has reported that the recommended signage has been posted at this sink location. Regular inspections should be carried out to ensure the proper signage remains in place. If proper signage is not present, EL recommends that the appropriate signage be replaced at this location.

The table below identifies the water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead with the associated first draw sample lead levels, as well as the corrective actions taken by Cliffside Park Board of Education.

Sample Location	Sample ID	Purpose	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Follow-up Result in µg/l (ppb)	Corrective Actions Taken
Water Fountain Near Room 122	10-CPHS-BY122-WF	Drinking Water Outlet	18.1	Not Sampled	Fountain Immediately Shut off and Removed from Service
Sink in kitchen by ice machine on other side of half wall	02-CPHS-KICTH-SK	Dish Washing	17	Non-Detect	Faucet Immediately Shut off, Replaced and Re-Sampled
Sink Trainer’s Room	28-CPHS-TR-SK	Handwashing	55	Not Sampled	Handwashing Only Signage Added

Summary of Actions Taken

1. Outlets that tested above the 15 ug/l for lead associated with the first draw samples were immediately taken out of service.
2. The faucet located in the kitchen was replaced and retested, the result was non-detect for lead.
3. Non-Food preparation sinks that tested above the 15 ug/l for lead associated with the first draw samples were ceased for potable usage and designated as a hand wash only outlet. “DO NOT DRINK SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY” signage was posted above the sinks.

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 as a result 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.

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 at the central office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents and can be viewed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. in the board of education office located at 525 Palisade Avenue-3rd Floor, Municipal Complex. The results are also available on the Cliffside Park Board of Education website <https://cliffsidepark.edu/leadresults>. For more information about water quality in the Cliffside Park public schools, contact Mr. Ciro Spinella, Cliffside Park School District Facilities Manager at (201) 313-2425.

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,

Gary Weissberger, LSRP
Associate

Enclosures:



Table 1

Cliffside Park High School

Lead in Drinking Water Sampling Results

Location		Coffee Machine in Kitchen	Sink in Kitchen on Island by ovens	Sink closest to pasta machine faucet in Kitchen	Pasta machine faucet in Kitchen	Sink in Kitchen (ice machine on other side of half wall)	Sink in Kitchen (ice machine on other side of half wall) Resample after faucet replacement	Ice Machine inside Kitchen	Sink in Large Food Prep Room, on <i>left</i> when facing sinks	Sink in Large Food Prep Room, on <i>right</i> when facing sinks	Bottle fill station near basement Conference Room (in hallway)
Sample ID:	NJ Drinking Water Quality Standards	05-CPHS-KITCH-COFF	03-CPHS-KITCH-SK	01A-CPHS-KITCH-FC	01B-CPHS-KITCH-SK	02-CPHS-KITCH-SK	02-CPHS-KITCH-SK	23-CPHS-KITCH-IM	25-CPHS-KITCH-SK	24-CPHS-KITCH-SK	18A-CPHS-BYCONF-BF
Lab ID:	(NJAC 7:10 9/18)	24G1871-01	24G1871-02	24G1871-03	24G1871-04	24G1871-05	24K0792-01	24G1871-29	24G1871-06	24G1871-07	24G1871-08
Date Sampled:	(µg/L)	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	11/7/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024
Analyte											
Lead	15	<1.0	2.3	2	<1.0	17	<1.0	<1.0	5	<1.0	<1.0

RL - Reporting Limit
 µg/L - Microgram Per Liter
 <1.0 - Indicates no detection above the RL

Indicates the result is above the NJ Drinking Water Standards

Location		Chiller fountain near basement Conference Room (in hallway)	Bottle fill station in Cafeteria	Chiller fountain in Cafeteria	Water fountain in Boy's Locker Room	Bottle fill station near Room 215	Chiller fountain near Room 215	Sink in Trainer's Room	Ice Machine in Trainer's Room	Sink in Home Ec Room (Room 107)	Sink in Home Ec Room (Room 107)
Sample ID:	NJ Drinking Water Quality Standards	18B-CPHS-BYCONF-CF	06A-CPHS-CAFE-BF	06B-CPHS-CAFE-CF	07-CPHS-BOYSLR-WF	19A-CPHS-BY215-BF	19B-CPHS-BY215-CF	28-CPHS-TR-SK	29-CPHS-TR-IM	13-CPHS-HEC-SK1	14-CPHS-HEC-SK2
Lab ID:	(NJAC 7:10 9/18)	24G1871-09	24G1871-10	24G1871-11	24G1871-12	24G1871-13	24G1871-14	24G1871-15	24G1871-16	24G1871-17	24G1871-18
Date Sampled:	(µg/L)	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024
Analyte											
Lead	15	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	1.7	<1.0	<1.0	55	1.1	1.6	1.7

RL - Reporting Limit
 µg/L - Microgram Per Liter
 <1.0 - Indicates no detection above the RL

Indicates the result is above the NJ Drinking Water Standards

Location		Sink in Home Ec Room (Room 107)	Sink in Home Ec Room (Room 107)	Sink in Home Ec Room (Room 107)	Bottle fill station near Main Office	Sink in Nurse's Office	Sink in Director of Guidance Office (next to Room 103)	Sink in First Floor Faculty Room (near room 122)	Water fountain near Room 122	Sink in Tech Room (inside Library on Second Floor)	Sink in Second Floor Faculty Room (across from Room 214)
Sample ID:	NJ Drinking Water Quality Standards	15-CPHS-HEC-SK3	16-CPHS-HEC-SK4	17-CPHS-HEC-SK5	12A-CPHS-BYMO-BF	26-CPHS-NURSE-SK	29-CPHS-DOG-SK	09-CPHS-1FFAC-SK	10-CPHS-BY122-WF	21-CPHS-TECH-SK	20-CPHS-FAC2F-SK
Lab ID:	(NJAC 7:10 9/18)	24G1871-19	24G1871-20	24G1871-21	24G1871-22	24G1871-23	24G1871-24	24G1871-25	24G1871-26	24G1871-27	24G1871-28
Date Sampled:	(µg/L)	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024	7/23/2024
Analyte											
Lead	15	1.8	<1.0	2.8	<1.0	1.3	3.5	1	18.1	3.7	<1.0

RL - Reporting Limit
 µg/L - Microgram Per Liter
 <1.0 - Indicates no detection above the RL

Indicates the result is above the NJ Drinking Water Standards

*Please note sample ID 05-CPHS-KITCH-COFF is the same as ID 05-CPHS-KITCH-CAFÉ

ID 01B-CPHS-KITCH-SK is the same as 018-CPHS-KITCH-SK