

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 School #4**
279 Columbia Ave
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 24, 2024, EL collected drinking water samples throughout the aforementioned school.

No lead concentrations exceeding 15 µg/l [ppb] were identified in drinking water outlets or food preparation sinks.

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 second-floor office (across from room 209) contained lead above the 15 µg/l action level and should be used for handwashing only.



The table below identifies the water outlet that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead. EL recommended that “DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY” signage be added to this location as a precautionary measure. Cliffside Park Board of Education has reported that 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.

Sample Location	Sample ID	Purpose	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Recommended Action
Sink in second floor office across from Room 209	08-S4-OFF-SK	Handwashing	22	Handwashing only signage added

Summary of Actions Taken

1. Non-Food preparation sink that tested above the 15 ug/l for lead associated with the first draw samples were ceased for potable usage and designated as hand wash only outlets.. “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 Safe Drinking Water Act hotline at 1-800-426-4791, 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,



DIGITAL SIGNATURE REPRESENTATION

Gary Weissberger, LSRP
Associate

Enclosures

Table 1

Cliffside Park School #4

Lead in Drinking Water Sampling Results

Location		Sink in Cafeteria/ Kitchen	Bottle fill station by Room 107	Sink in teacher's lounge by Room 107	Sink in teacher's room by Room 206	Sink in second floor office across from Room 209	Sink inside Room 103	Bubbler fountain inside Room 103	Sink in Nurse's Office	Bottle fill station by Room 112
Sample ID:	NJ Drinking Water Quality Standards	07-S4-CAFE-SK	03A-S4-BY107-BF	15-S4-TEACH-SK	16-S4-TEACH F2-SK	08-S4-OFF-SK	11-S4-RM103-SK	12-S4-RM103-BU	01-S4-NURSE-SK	04A-S4-BY112-BF
Lab ID:	(NJAC 7:10 9/18)	24G1867-01	24G1867-02	24G1867-03	24G1867-04	24G1867-05	24G1867-06	24G1867-07	24G1867-08	24G1867-09
Date Sampled:	(µg/L)	7/24/2024	7/24/2024	7/24/2024	7/24/2024	7/24/2024	7/24/2024	7/24/2024	7/24/2024	7/24/2024
Analyte										
Lead	15	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	3	22	<1.0	<1.0	3.2	<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