



# Franklin Township Public Schools

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Franklin Township School Community:

Our school district is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community, the Franklin Township School District has once again conducted testing of our schools' drinking water for lead.

### **Why Test School Drinking Water for 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 old. 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. In the most extreme circumstances high levels of lead can even lead to serious brain injury.

To protect public health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggests that schools and day care facilities test their drinking water for lead. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), EPA recommends taking action to reduce the lead.

### **Is Our School's Drinking Water Safe?**

Yes, our schools' water is safe. The Franklin Township School District is currently performing testing of our schools' drinking water for lead. While drinking water testing at all of the schools in the district has been completed, we still await some of the results. We send this letter at this time to let you know that of the 154 water samples analyzed to date, only 4 showed lead levels slightly above the 15 ppb mark. In other words, 97% of the water outlets tested did not have any lead problems. As further results come in, we will keep you informed.

It is important to note that follow-up samples will be taken at each of the outlets that indicated lead levels above the specified threshold. Until then, we will be isolating these outlets so that they will not be used for drinking water purposes. In the meantime there are other faucets and fountains that students and staff may use for drinking water.

The first round of testing indicated lead at levels higher than the 15 ppb threshold at the following outlets:

#### Franklin Park School:

1. Faucet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor by Classroom #305
2. Food prep faucet in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor office Room #520
3. Drinking water fountain on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Classroom #215

Franklin Park Annex:

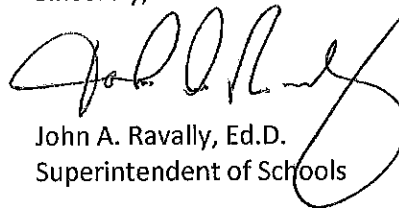
1. Faucet on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Classroom A8
2. Drinking water fountain on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor by Classroom A8
3. Drinking water fountain in the 1<sup>st</sup> hallway by Room A5

Confirmatory samples will be taken at each of these outlets. If the fixtures are identified to contain lead or lead parts, we will replace the part or plumbing. While we continue with the sampling process, we have taken measures that will ensure no one uses these outlets until the problem has been corrected.

**How Can I Learn More?**

You can see a copy of all of our water testing results by visiting the Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary, which is open Monday to Friday from (9:00 am to 4:00 pm) and on our Web site at [www.franklinboe.org](http://www.franklinboe.org). For more information about water quality in our schools, please contact Mr. Rick Goetz at 732-873-2371 and/or Mr. James Strimple at 732-873-2400 ext. 308. For information about water quality and sampling for lead at home, contact your local water supplier or state drinking water agency.

Sincerely,



John A. Ravally, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools