

## Riverton Public School

600 Fifth Street, Riverton, NJ 08077

[www.riverton.k12.nj.us](http://www.riverton.k12.nj.us)

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Mary Ellen Eck, Superintendent

November 18, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

The health and safety of our students and staff is of utmost importance to the Riverton School District. As required by the Department of Education regulations, all drinking water outlets in our facilities must be sampled for lead. The Riverton School District has scheduled the lead drinking water sampling for our school on November 19, 2021.

### Why Test School Drinking Water for Lead?

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters the body from drinking water or other sources. 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.

Lead is rarely found in the source water; rather it enters the drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the service line or interior plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome-brass faucets, and in some cases, pipes made of lead that connect buildings to water mains (service lines). Since 1986, all plumbing materials must be "lead free". The law currently allows plumbing materials to be up to 0.25 percent lead to be labeled as "lead free". However, prior to January 4, 2014, "lead free" allowed up to 8 percent lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products including those labeled National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) certified.

All drinking water outlets in our school will be sampled on November 19, 2021. We anticipate receiving the results from our laboratory within three weeks of sampling. Upon receiving the sample results, we will inform you if any of the drinking water outlets had a result greater than the action level of 15  $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$  (parts per billion [ppb]) and will post all of the results on our website at [www.riverton.k12.nj.us](http://www.riverton.k12.nj.us).

The Riverton School District will also implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15  $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$  (ppb). This will include turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK - SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

To prepare for the test, the school building is closed 8:00 P.M. Thursday night until 7:30 A.M. on Friday morning.

Sincerely,

*Mary Ellen Eck*

Mary Ellen Eck, Superintendent

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