



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES  
243 Israel Road SE • PO Box 47825 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7825  
TDD Relay Service: 1-800-833-6388

June 26, 2019

Liliana Cardenas  
Director of Maintenance and Operations  
Foster High School  
4242 South 144th St  
Tukwila, Washington 98168

Dear Liliana Cardenas:

Thank you for helping us implement the governor's directive on lead and improve the health and safety of children in Washington.

On June 18, 2019, water samples were collected from two drinking water fixtures at Foster High School and tested for lead. There was no detectable lead in the samples tested. The test results from your school are attached.

Children are exposed to lead from a variety of sources in their environments. Exposure sources include dust from old, deteriorating lead paint, contaminated soil, take-home exposures from parents who work in certain industries, and many others. Each of these sources contributes to the amount of lead in the bodies of children.

It is important to reduce exposure from every source as much as possible. Though your results were none detect, we want you to continue to reduce lead in drinking water and children's overall exposure to lead.

**What to do next:**

1. **Communicate** with staff, students, parents and the community about water test results and any actions you are taking in response. Please note: we will post results on the DOH website, no sooner than one month from the date of this letter.
  - We have included a template letter that can be customized to communicate to parents and your school community.
  - We suggest making the results available on your district website and through your office.
2. **Address** the sources of lead in the drinking water at your school. To assist you we have included the "Guidelines for Responding to Lead Test Results" matrix and a list of recommended actions. *There are resources in the capital facilities budget set aside for remediation. Please contact Justin Rogers with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at 360-725-6261 or email at Justin.rogers@k12.wa.us for further information.*
3. **Notify** us if your school district cannot immediately address issues identified by these results. Please describe interim measures that will be taken to reduce exposure to lead from those fixtures which had

elevated lead results and any plans for remediation. This information should also be provided to staff and your community.

**How were the samples taken and analyzed?**

Cold water samples were collected from every tap used by students for drinking or used to prepare food for students. These were “first draw” samples, in which the water is allowed to sit in the plumbing system for 8 to 18 hours before the sample is collected. Samples were analyzed by our Public Health Laboratory using EPA method 200.8.

If you have questions regarding test results, or need additional information please contact me at 360.236.3248, or e-mail at [annemarie.charles@doh.wa.gov](mailto:annemarie.charles@doh.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Anne Marie Charles  
School Lead in Drinking Water Coordinator

## **Recommended Actions: None**

It appears that you are taking adequate steps to reduce children's exposure to lead in drinking water in your school. Please continue with your process.

# Sample Message to Parents and Community - No Lead Detected

## DATE

Dear Peacefultown School Community:

In 2017, the Legislature directed the Washington State Department of Health to test for lead in drinking water in public schools in an effort to reduce children's overall exposure to lead in the environment. As part of our commitment to ensuring the health of our students and staff is protected, we recently participated in this program.

### What did we learn?

On **DATE**, DOH staff sampled **NUMBER** of fixtures at **NAME OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**. This represents every fixture that provides drinking water to students or is used to prepare food. The testing was done prior to the school day before students were in the building. **No water samples showed detectable lead.**

### Why is lead a problem?

Children are exposed to lead from a variety of sources in their environments. Exposure sources include dust from old, deteriorating lead paint, contaminated soil, take-home exposures from parents who work in certain industries, and many others. Each of these sources contribute to the amount of lead in the bodies of children.

It is important to reduce exposure from every source as much as possible. Children six years old and younger are the most susceptible to the effects of lead. Their growing bodies absorb more lead than adults and their brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead. Even at very low levels of exposure to lead, children may experience effects including lower IQ levels, reduced attention span, hyperactivity, poor classroom performance, or other harmful physical and behavioral effects.

### How can I learn more?

Water testing results are available at the district office and on our website [www.peacefultownschoools.k12.us](http://www.peacefultownschoools.k12.us). For more information about water quality in our schools, please contact **NAME** at **NUMBER**. If you are concerned that your child has been exposed to lead for any reason ask your healthcare provider about having them screened for lead.

Sincerely,

(John Jacobs)  
Superintendent Schools

# News Release for No Lead Found

**For immediate release:** Date

Contact: District contact name, phone number

## No Lead Found in Drinking Water at Peacefultown School

**PEACEFULTOWN** - Results from recent drinking water tests at **NAME OF SCHOOL** confirm that the water is safe for children to drink with no lead detected in any fixtures.

In 2017, the Legislature directed the Washington State Department of Health to test for lead in drinking water in public schools in an effort to reduce children's overall exposure to lead in the environment. On **DATE OF TESTING** DOH sampled every fixture that provides drinking water to students or is used to prepare food.

"Our students' health and safety is our top priority. When we had the opportunity for the state to test our school's water we were happy to participate," said **SUPERINTENDANT NAME**.

The water testing followed federal and state guidelines for sample collection and testing.

Information about the lead testing program, including laboratory results, can be found at the district office Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

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**Name of Sampler:** Lisa Christensen  
**Date Collected:** 6/18/2019  
**School Name:** Foster High School  
**School Code:** 2848  
**School District:** Tukwila  
**School Address:** 4242 South 144th St, Tukwila WA 98168  
**School County:** King  
**Number of Samples Collected:** 2  
**School Point of Contact (POC):** Liliana Cardenas  
**POC Title:** Director of Maintenance and Operations  
**POC Email:** cardenasl@tukwila.wednet.edu  
**POC Phone Number:** (206) 901-8020  
**Date Samples Sent to Lab:** 06/18/2019  
**Date Samples Received by Lab:** 6/20/2019  
**Shipment Tracking Number:** 787958786576

Program ID	Sample Type	Description	Location	Lead Results (ppb)	Analysis Date	Comments
25701	other	other		<1	6/22/2019	06642, 6:41 AM
25702	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 317	1	6/22/2019	Post fixture replacement, conditioned 2x a day for 2-3 minutes over a week