



Westport
Community
Schools

Facilities Office

November 15, 2021

To the Students, Families, and Staff of Alice A. Macomber School:

During recent lead and copper sampling, two water taps at our school had lead levels above the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) recommended certified laboratory detection limit of 1 ppb. Copper levels did not exceed the Massachusetts and federal Action Level of 1.3 milligrams per liter (ppm) for copper in drinking water. See results below:

Sampling Results				
Date Sample Collected	Location	Lead result in mg/L	Copper results in mg/L	Contaminant detected
9/14/2021	Kitchen Sink 3	.0192	.179	X
9/14/2021	Room 7 Large Sink	.0329	.0682	X

We would like to inform you about our plans to reduce potential exposure to lead and copper in drinking water at our school. The administration takes these results very seriously and is moving immediately to safeguard the health of the students, faculty and staff. The following information describes steps we are taking to address the issue of lead and copper in the water.

To safeguard our students and other sensitive individuals (including woman who are pregnant or nursing), our school is working closely and cooperatively with MassDEP and others and taking actions as follows:

What we are doing:

1. We have removed from service all taps with lead concentrations over the school's lead shut down level (e.g 15 ppb).
2. We have posted on our website and within the building, a public information process that will include distribution of outreach material to all students, parents, teachers, staff and local officials.
3. We have developed a sampling plan to conduct testing at outlets (faucets, water fountains, etc.) where students and staff get water for drinking, beverage preparation and cooking.
4. We have implemented a flushing and water usage plan to safeguard against lead and copper exposure from drinking water in the school at outlets that are found to be above the Action Level for copper and/or had lead concentrations above the recommended certified laboratory detection limit of 1 ppb. This includes the daily flushing of faucets at sinks and the limitation of water consumption to cold-water faucets for food and beverage preparation.
5. We will be replacing the faucets at the two locations with no lead faucets. We will develop and put into place a corrective action plan as quickly as possible following additional testing and consultation.
6. Through periodic reports, we will keep you informed as to the progress of our efforts. These reports will serve to let you know what has been done and what is being done to safeguard against lead and copper exposure from drinking water at our school.