

Laurel Public Schools

School District No. 7 & 7-70
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Laurel, Montana 59044
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March 30, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like to inform you of a recently enacted regulation for all Montana public schools by the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS). This regulation aims to reduce children's exposure to lead in drinking water through testing and corrective action if necessary.

Our district has performed quarterly drinking water lead testing for many years in all of our schools and our results have been below the maximum acceptable contaminant level of .015 mg/liter set by federal guidelines. However, the new regulation set forth by DPHHS has reduced the maximum acceptable contaminant level to .005 mg/liter. In response to this change, Laurel Public Schools is taking the following action.

We have created a plan which includes an inventory, sampling and testing of all possible human consumption fixtures (HCF), in compliance with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) guidelines. Fixtures with results exceeding 0.005 milligrams per liter (mg/L) or 5 parts per billion will be labeled "THIS FIXTURE TO BE USED FOR HAND WASHING ONLY". These fixtures will remain out of service until remedial action takes place and subsequent testing yields a result at or below the maximum acceptable contaminant level. Test results will be made available to the public by April 15, 2022 through the DEQ at deq.mt.gov/lead.

Parents, teachers and community members can also get updates on the lead in drinking water program through our website www.laurel.k12.mt.us or our Facebook page.

It is our priority to ensure that our students and staff continue to have safe drinking water by meeting these new standards and further minimizing lead levels.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Wayne Fjare
Director of Facilities
Laurel Public Schools