Dear Salem Woods Elementary staff and families,

We are pleased to inform you that the post-remediation lead testing conducted by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) at Salem Woods Elementary has yielded positive results. Specifically, lead levels in the water fixture that previously tested above five ppb have now been reduced to under one ppb. Consequently, this fixture has been deemed safe for use once again, both for drinking and food preparation purposes.

As a reminder, in September, we communicated that school drinking water must undergo testing for lead every five years in buildings constructed before 2016, as mandated by law (RCW 43.70.830 and RCW 28A.210.410). Given that the majority of Salem Woods Elementary was built after 2016, most fixtures did not necessitate testing. However, the DOH focused on sampling seven fixtures in the older portion of the school (gym/kitchen building) where students have access and where it is reasonably foreseeable that water may be used for drinking or food preparation.

Upon analysis, one water sample revealed lead levels above five ppb. Subsequently, the affected water fixture was promptly shut off and replaced. Following this remediation, the DOH conducted a retest, and the results confirmed the success of our efforts in reducing lead levels.

For your convenience, the most recent lead test results are accessible at the district office and on our website. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding water quality in our schools, please feel free to reach out to Adam Denney, MSD Director of Facilities, at denneya@monroe.wednet.edu or (360) 804-2679.