



Aspire Act Achieve

## TRIAD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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November 28, 2023

Dear Parents,

As you know, we work closely with the Ohio EPA to ensure our drinking water meets all standards that they have put in place. January of 2006 marked a change in the federal and state drinking water rules on arsenic. On that date the maximum contaminant level (MCL) was reduced from .05 micrograms per liter (mg/L) to .01 (mg/L). Since that date, Triad Elementary School and Triad Middle School have typically been in compliance with EPA regulations during the school year, but on a few occasions levels have been higher during the summer months when buildings are empty due to a decrease in the use of water.

According to the Ohio EPA;

“Arsenic can be found in drinking water as a result of natural processes of human activities. Higher levels of arsenic tend to be found more often in ground water than in surface water. The main source of arsenic in ground water is natural weathering and erosion of rocks and minerals. Most arsenic found in Ohio’s ground water is naturally occurring.”

Triad, in conjunction with the Ohio EPA, drinking water specialists and our own maintenance staff, has been using a variety of methods to reduce the presence of arsenic in the drinking water. This year, 3 of our 4 quarterly sample levels have been under .01 (mg/L). However, due to the summer months mentioned above, our running 4 quarter average is still slightly above the MCL at .011 (mg/L) and as a result, we are required to send our community this drinking water notice.

As soon as we were informed about the MCL violation, Triad worked with the Ohio EPA to look for options to address the issue. We will first replace the resin in our water system. This should help to filter the water and reduce the “naturally occurring element” from our systems. The second recommendation is to add additional summer procedures to regularly flush the MS/ES water system out to ensure water does not sit for long periods of time and cause the 3rd quarter reading to be elevated.

“The current levels of arsenic do not pose an immediate health risk; however, some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with the circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.” As a precaution, and because Triad will always put the welfare of the children first, parents are always welcome to send their student to school with a water bottle so they can use it during the school day.

I have included the Ohio EPA notice of violation along with the Ohio EPA Q&A document. If you have any questions regarding this issue please contact me at [maruniakv@triadk12.org](mailto:maruniakv@triadk12.org) or (937) 826-4961.

Thank you,

Vickie Hoffman/Maruniak

*Vickie Maruniak*

Superintendent, Triad Local Schools

*\*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*