

Charleston County School District is testing drinking water from water taps within all schools to determine the possible presence of lead. We developed the testing program in consultation with officials from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and local municipal water systems.

We tested over 25 water taps at Carolina Voyager Charter School (at the former St. Andrews Middle School) and the results are shown below. You will find dates, locations, and results of testing in a table. You can tell what each sample represents by the sample #, for example “SAM-S63” refers to a sink at Carolina Voyager, “F” refers to fountain, and “IM” refers to ice machine. There is a “Key” at the top of the table to explain these abbreviations.

The results from this testing found that Carolina Voyager Charter School’s drinking water was at or below the recommended level of 15 parts per billion (ppb) for “first draw” testing except for one sink in the concession stand at the gym. Our staff immediately turned off the faucet. The faucet was retested and found to be below the recommended level following typical use and flushing. Out of an abundance of caution, the faucet was replaced, a filter certified to remove lead was installed, and the water has been turned back on.

We have recently expanded a program that includes flushing of all water taps at our schools and we have expanded filtering of common-area water cooler-fountains, all of which are now filtered at Carolina Voyager Charter School. These initiatives, in addition to the drinking water testing, demonstrate our intent to provide the highest quality of drinking water for our students.

You may also review some frequently asked questions about the testing and other helpful links about drinking water at the CCSD Facilities Management web page (www.ccsdschools.com/watersampling). If you have additional questions, you may contact our staff at (843) 566-1835 or facilities@ccsdschools.com.

