



Amherst Central School District

Anthony J. Panella
Superintendent

Ryan Schoenfeld, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology

December 29, 2016

Dear Staff and Parents of Amherst Central High School,

As a district, we are committed to the safety and education of all our students and we also want to clearly communicate with parents about our learning environment.

The Amherst Central School District is in compliance with regulations issued by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) requiring all school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) to test potable water fixtures used for drinking or cooking purposes for lead contamination, to remediate contamination, and to notify parents of children and the public of test results. Levels of lead at any water outlet above 15 parts per billion (ppb) require action to remediate this issue and trigger notification requirements.

As required, the Amherst Central School District tested all water sources in every school building for lead. Consistent with regulatory requirements, first draw water samples were taken after letting the water remain unmoving in the pipes over a period of 8 to 18 hours. I am writing to share the initial results we received for testing at the Amherst Central High School.

In total, 145 samples were collected at Amherst Central High School with 11 samples exceeding the threshold of 15 ppb, as follows:

- Classroom Sink: Room 317, 320(2), 322, 327(2), 329
- Storeroom Sink: Room 322/329 (3)
- Wash Sink: Kitchen

In response to the receipt of these test results, the water outlets that exceeded the testing level have immediately been taken out of service. The next step is to develop a remediation plan that will be approved and guided by the experts in the field of water remediation.

It is important to note that none of the sources will be put back into service and available for drinking or cooking until the sources are fully mitigated, re-tested and meet NYSDOH Standards.

A copy of our water testing results will be available on the District website at www.amherstschoools.org under the News headline, Water Testing.

For more information about water quality and sampling for lead you may want to contact the Erie County Department of Health at 961-6800. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact your building principal, School Business Administrator Melanie Conley, or me.

Sincerely,

Anthony Panella
Superintendent of Schools