

Lead in School Drinking Water Report & Action Plan

Whittier Elementary School

The Pasco School District (PSD) prioritizes the health and safety of its students and community. Washington State requires all drinking water fixtures in public schools built, or with all plumbing replaced, before 2016 be tested for lead by June 30, 2026, with retesting at least once every five years thereafter.

To safeguard public health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established standards for lead in drinking water and recommends taking action when concentrations exceed 15 parts per billion (ppb). However, Washington State has adopted a more protective standard for schools, requiring action when lead levels exceed 5 ppb. These thresholds are not indicators of health effects but serve as signals for when work should begin to reduce lead concentrations in drinking water.

PSD has implemented a districtwide water quality testing program to ensure compliance with RCW 28A.210.410. This document provides an overview of the process, results, and corrective actions from the 2024 sampling event.

How the Testing Process Works

STEP 1



An inventory of all water fixtures at the school used for drinking or cooking is taken and reviewed.

STEP 2



Water samples are collected from identified fixtures and sent to an accredited laboratory for testing.

STEP 3



Fixtures with sample results exceeding 5 ppb are removed from service and an action plan developed.

STEP 4



Additional investigation and corrective actions are taken to reduce lead concentration levels.

STEP 5



Fixtures are resampled to determine if they are ready to be returned to service.

Sampling Events & Results

Sampling Date	Sampling Agency	Sampling Event Type	Samples Collected	Samples > 5 ppb	Results Received
06/04/24	WA Department of Health	Initial	81	0	07/12/24
10/09/24	WA Department of Health	New Fixtures	3	1	11/08/24
01/16/25	PBS Engineering & Environmental	Post-Remediation	1	0	01/29/25

This table will be updated as post-remediation re-sampling events are conducted.

Corrective Action Plan

Fixtures with lead levels above 5 ppb require an action plan, following [DOH technical guidance](#), to reduce levels to 5 ppb or below. Work begins immediately upon receiving results, while formal action plans are prepared, opened for public comment, and adopted by the District's Board of Directors.

Public Comment Period

February 10, 2025 – February 24, 2025

Plan Adopted by School Board

Plan Last Updated

February 7, 2025

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The action plan that follows addresses the following three key components:

- 1) **Mitigation Measures:** Immediate actions implemented upon receiving elevated lead test results to prevent access to drinking water with lead concentrations exceeding 5 ppb. These temporary or permanent measures may include shutting off the fixture or labeling it as “hand washing only.” Fixtures with lead concentrations above 15 ppb must be shut off immediately.
- 2) **Scheduled Remediation Activities:** Long-term solutions designed to permanently reduce lead concentrations in drinking water to 5 ppb or less. These actions typically include replacing fixtures, pipes, or other sources of lead contamination.
- 3) **Post-Remediation Sampling:** Information regarding follow-up testing performed after remediation to verify that lead concentrations have been reduced to 5 ppb or less, ensuring the effectiveness of the remediation efforts.

Fixture ID	Location	Fixture Type	Remediation Status																
WHES-049-OF	Art Storage – Room 149a	Faucet	Complete																
Mitigation Measures: Water was shut off to the fixture and the fixture removed from service. Remediation Plan: A new fixture was installed and tested. Initial test of new fixture came in above 5 ppb. New fixture conditioning completed per DOH Technical guidance. Fixture remained out of service until post-remediation testing confirmed that lead concentrations were reduced to 5 ppb or less. Sampling Activities: <table> <tr> <th>Sampling Date</th><th>Sample ID</th><th>Purpose of Sampling</th><th>Results</th></tr> <tr> <td>06/04/24</td><td>371910</td><td>Initial Sampling</td><td>5 ppb</td></tr> <tr> <td>10/09/24</td><td>389612</td><td>Post-Remediation Sampling</td><td>21 ppb</td></tr> <tr> <td>01/16/25</td><td>WA-11001-4526-001CF</td><td>Post-Remediation Sampling</td><td>1.3 ppb</td></tr> </table> Remediation Complete – Fixture Returned to Service				Sampling Date	Sample ID	Purpose of Sampling	Results	06/04/24	371910	Initial Sampling	5 ppb	10/09/24	389612	Post-Remediation Sampling	21 ppb	01/16/25	WA-11001-4526-001CF	Post-Remediation Sampling	1.3 ppb
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