Amherst Central School District

Anthony J. Panella
Superintendent

Lynn Shanahan, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum, Instruction & Technology

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Assistant Superintendent
Student & Staff Services

July 29, 2025

Dear Windermere Boulevard Elementary School Parent/Guardian,

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 5 parts per billion (ppb) require action to remediate this issue and trigger notification requirements. 2022 revisions to the Public Health Law (PHL) reduced the lead action level in drinking water from 15 parts per billion (ppb) to 5 ppb and reduced the compliance testing cycle to a triennial (every 3 years) schedule. The first compliance testing period is 2023-2025 under the revised PHL.

As required, the Amherst Central School District tested all water sources required to be tested in every school building per NYSDOH regulations. Non-applicable outlets such as bathroom sinks and tempered outlets (blended hot/cold) that are not required to be tested have been identified with appropriate signage stating “Caution - Non Potable Water - Do Not Drink”.

Consistent with regulatory requirements, first draw water samples were taken after letting the water remain motionless in pipes for a minimum of 8 hours and a maximum of 18 hours. I am writing to share the initial results we received for testing at Windermere Boulevard Elementary School.

In total, 55 samples were collected at Windermere Boulevard Elementary School with 2 samples exceeding the threshold of 5 ppb, as follows:

- Kitchen Kettle Filler Right
- Classroom 252 Sink by Window

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.

The water testing results are available on the District website at www.amherstschools.org under Departments / Facilities. 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 Mark Rampado, ACSD Director of Facilities, at 362-8151 or email, mrampado@amherstschools.org.

Sincerely,



Anthony Panella, Superintendent of Schools