



Dear Families of the MRH Community,

A letter was sent earlier this year after lead testing was conducted on all available water sources in the MRH School District. Efforts to eliminate lead in school drinking water received a huge boost in August when the State of Missouri approved \$27 million for schools to test and remediate water sources in schools. As a reminder, all schools have an opportunity to take some exclusions but MRH decided to test all water sources.

The new law, which went into effect Aug. 28, 2022, requires schools to test their drinking water and follow recommendations to remediate water sources that test 5 parts per billion or greater. This is more stringent than the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which states that remediation should begin at 15 parts per billion or greater. Below you will see a breakdown of our sites.

ECC

No contaminated sources were reported in December. MRH did not need to remediate any water sources.

Elementary

One contaminated water source was identified at the Elementary in December. MRH worked with our plumbing vendor to replace the faucet at this site and retesting showed this is no longer considered a contaminated water source. MRH will continue testing on this site as required by state law.

Middle School / High School

Ten water sources were identified as contaminated in December. MRH replaced or repaired all identified contaminated water sources per the recommendations of our environmental testing vendor. Of the ten identified water sources, none is now considered a contaminated water source. Due to construction, we had multiple water sources turned off throughout the building or were not in service yet during the initial testing. This required 37 additional water sources to be tested that were not tested in December. Of the 37 sources tested, three came back as contaminated. All three of these fall under the EPA limit of remediation but above the Missouri threshold. All three were immediately taken out of service as sources for drinking water.

231-MRH-77-R – Room 212 – South Side Sink – 6.4 ppb - will be remediated and retested to be placed back in service.

231-MRH-78A-R – Room 212 – Sink inside Fume Hood – 6.9 ppb - will be remediated and retested to be placed back in service.

231-MRH-136-R – Outside Weight Room – West (Right Side) Drinking Fountain – 6.3 ppb - This is an area being converted to storage. The water fountain was turned off and will be removed from service.



Concerns and Remediation Efforts:

Incidents and Remediation:

While we could simply add mandated signage indicating non-potable water on the sinks that have been tested, we believe in taking proactive measures. All affected hand-washing sinks have already been marked as non-potable, and fixtures are ordered for replacement based on the recommendations of water testing professionals.

Next Steps:

We are working on targeted remediation to ensure that all water sources within our schools meet or exceed safety standards. We will provide updates and your feedback and questions are welcome. Once all remediation is complete, the four sources across the district will be retested.

The safety and well-being of our students remain our top priority. We appreciate your cooperation as we work to resolve these issues. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Michael Dittrich at michael.dittrich@mrhschools.net.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dr. Michael Dittrich
Director of Operations, MRH School District

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