



West Linn – Wilsonville Schools

May 26, 2023

Dear Bolton Primary School Parents, Teachers, Staff and all Building Occupants:

As part of the Oregon Health Authority's Healthy and Safe Schools Plan (ORS 332.331), all Oregon schools are required to test for elevated levels of lead in drinking or food preparation water. To ensure all West Linn-Wilsonville schools are safe and healthy, and to meet OHA mandates, the District took water samples from all required fixtures at Bolton Primary School on May 3, 2023. The samples were immediately taken to a certified lab for testing. Results were received from the lab on May 9, 2023.

Results:

Of the 73 water samples taken at Bolton Primary School, one exceeded the 15.0 parts per billion (ppb) action level established by the Environmental Protection Agency and OHA. The EPA and OHA lowered the action threshold from 20 ppb to 15 ppb in 2021.

Next Steps:

The fixture that came in above the EPA action threshold was located in the kitchen. The fixture was immediately taken out of service and was replaced. It was re-tested on May 12, 2023 and the result was received from the lab May 24, 2023. The re-testing result revealed the lead level to be below the action level established by the EPA and OHA, and thus the fixture has been put back into service. Below is a glossary of terms used to help understand the test results.

GLOSSARY:

Lead — A chemical element with the symbol Pb. It is a heavy metal that can build up in one's body over time and can contribute to negative health consequences, such as developmental delays and learning difficulties. Lead is also recognized by the EPA as a probable human carcinogen.

Fixture ID # — Every fixture in the school district has a unique identification number, per the state guidelines set July 2021.

PPB — Parts per billion. Represents the concentration of lead in water. One ppb represents one microgram of lead per liter of water.

For any questions regarding lead in water testing or results in our district, please contact Jeremy Nichols, designated Lead in Water Testing Coordinator, at (503) 673-7981 or nicholsj@wlwv.k12.or.us. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Nichols
Safety & Security Supervisor
Department of Operations