

DR. MONICA FULTON
Assistant Superintendent
Human Resources & Support Services

DR. KYLE DARE
Superintendent

DR. MANDY WELCH
Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

January 23, 2024

Dear Mark Twain Elementary Families,

The Missouri Legislature passed the Get the Lead Out of School Drinking Water Act in the spring of 2022. Provisions of the Get the Lead Out of School Drinking Water Act dictate that during the 2024-25 school year, all schools must provide drinking water with a lead concentration level below five (5) parts per billion (ppb). On or before January 2024, schools were required to identify all outlets for drinking water or cooking purposes and develop a plan for testing those water sources. Before students return to school in August of 2024, all testing must be completed, and a remediation plan must be developed and shared with the public. Because there are very few approved testing agencies in the state and all schools are required to comply with this legislation, Rolla Public Schools has been proactive in identifying all water sources in each building so that timelines can be met.

The identified water sources at Mark Twain Elementary were proactively tested on December 21, 2023, by Teklab, Inc., out of Collinsville, IL. By protocol, each identified water source must be tested twice, once after the outlet has been unused for several hours and then immediately after the outlet has had water run through it.

As required by the Get the Lead Out of School Drinking Water Act, you are receiving this communication because potable water sources in your child's school have a lead concentration level in excess of 5 parts per billion (ppb). This new law sets a much higher standard than currently required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is 15 ppb.

Of the 51 samples received from Mark Twain Elementary, 1 handwashing sink was identified as testing over the threshold of 5 parts per billion (ppb).

Sample#/Room/Item	First Draw	Second Draw	MCL (Standard set by RSMo Section 160.077)
46 - Handwashing Sink - Room 303	7.3 ppb	<1 ppb	5 ppb

Upon receiving the results, the water source to the sink was turned off and taken out of service until the faucet could be replaced. All Mark Twain Elementary School results are on our website ([https://www.rolla31.org/district/get the lead out of school](https://www.rolla31.org/district/get_the_lead_out_of_school)).

The source of lead in water is typically from materials and components associated with the plumbing of the fixture or the line going to the fixture. RPS is committed to the health and well-being of its students and staff to
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ensure all drinking water at Mark Twain Elementary meets the newly required lead concentration level of less than 5 ppb.

In this case, the first sample was over the threshold, but the second was under. According to the protocol outlined in RSMo Section 160.077, remediation steps occur in this order:

1. Change the faucet or outlet itself as sometimes particulates settle and accumulate in the outlet. Once replaced, the outlet would be retested. If the tests are no longer over the threshold, the outlet is again considered safe.
2. If the problem is not in the outlet itself, then an approved filter may be installed while further testing is done to determine the source of the contamination.
3. If the internal piping is thought to be the source of the contamination, then replacing that piping is the next step in remediation. Retesting would then occur.
4. If the external piping from the point of water origin is thought to be the source of the contamination, then replacing that piping is the next step in remediation. Retesting would then occur.

Information about the health effects of lead exposure is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [here](#).

If you have specific questions about how lead exposure may affect your child, please contact your healthcare provider. Detailed water test results for all schools and information and resources about the health effects of lead exposure may be viewed at https://www.rolla31.org/district/get_the_lead_out_of_school

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monica Fulton".

Dr. Monica Fulton
Assistant Superintendent of HR & Operations