Rolla Public Schools

D. Kent King Administration Center

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Dear Rolla Middle School 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 Rolla Middle School were proactively tested on December 27, 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 62 samples received from Rolla Middle School, 29 handwashing sinks were identified as testing over the threshold of 5 parts per billion (ppb).

Room Number/Item	Sample Number	First Draw	Second Draw	MCL (Standard set by RSMo Section 160.077
Boys Restroom - East End Handsink 2	8	<1	9.3	5
Stage Handsinks	24	10.2	4	5
Stage Handsinks	25	9.1	5.6	5
Handsink Teacher Workroom	49	5.1	<1.0	5
Room 116 - Handsink	53	53.4	10.9	5
Room 116 - Handsink	54	25.5	3	5
Room 116 - Handsink	55	45.2	5	5

Room 116 - Handsink	56	22.7	6.9	5
Room 116 - Handsink	57	9	9.6	5
Room 116 - Handsink	58	70.7	10.1	5
Room 121 - Teacher Lunchroom Handsink	63	14.3	3.3	5
Room 121 - Teacher Lunchroom Handsink	64	14.4	21	5
Room 121 - Teacher Lunchroom Handsink	65	14.3	4.6	5
Room 121 - Teacher Lunchroom Handsink	66	14.8	3.3	5
Kitchen Handsinks	72	69.2	1.3	5
Kitchen Handsinks	73	8.1	<1.0	5
Room 228 - Handsink	80	21.8	1.1	5
Room 217 - Handsink	83	13	<1.0	5
Room 220 - Handsink	85	29.3	2.2	5
Room 220 - Handsink	86	45.5	6.1	5
Room 220 - Handsink	87	65.7	2.6	5
Room 218 - Handsink	88	58.4	4	5
Room 218 - Handsink	89	38.1	5.2	5
Room 218 - Handsink	90	59.6	5.7	5
Rm 216 - Handsink	91	8.1	1.9	5
Rm 207 - Handsink	105	9.1	1.8	5
Rm 210 - Handsink	106	7.3	<1.0	5
Rm 208 - Handsink	107	6.7	<1.0	5
Rm 206 - Handsink	108	10.4	1.1	5

Upon receiving the results, the water source to the sink was turned off and taken out of service until the faucet or line to the faucet is replaced. All Rolla Middle School results are on our website (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 ensure all drinking water at Rolla Middle School 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,

Dr. Monica Fulton
Assistant Superintendent of HR & Operations