



ATLANTIC CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Phone: 609-343-7200

December 17, 2024

Dear Sovereign Avenue School Community:

The Atlantic City Board of Education is highly committed to the safety of our students and staff. In compliance with the New Jersey Department of Education regulations, the District performed lead in water testing for drinking water locations in November 2024. The purpose of the sampling was to identify and address any drinking water location above the EPA action level of 15.5 micrograms per liter (ug/L). A drinking water location is an outlet that is designed or expected to be used for water consumption. These included, but were not limited to, classroom water fountains and sinks, water coolers, sinks in nurse's offices, faculty break rooms, and locations in kitchens used for food preparation. Bathroom, custodial, art room, and science room sinks were not sampled, as these are not expected, nor designed to be used for, water consumption.

Water was allowed to remain motionless in each facility for a minimum of eight hours prior to sampling. After this time of inactivity, an "initial draw" sample was collected from the first water to come out of the outlet. After this sample was collected, water was allowed to flush for the required amount of time, and a second "flush" sample was collected. The purpose of the flush sample is to help determine if contamination does exist, whether it is originating from the outlet itself or from the building's plumbing.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for the Sovereign Avenue School. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. None of the samples taken tested above the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 ug/l [ppb]).

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of six. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

Copies of all water testing results can be viewed at the school district's central office, Monday to Friday, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM and are available on our website at (www.acboe.org). For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Kurt Austin, Facilities Manager, Atlantic City Board of Education, (609) 343-7200 x 5067.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

Yours in Education,

Dr. La'Quetta S. Small