Rolla Public Schools

D. Kent King Administration Center

DR. MONICA FULTON
Assistant Superintendent
Human Resources & Support Services

DR. KYLE DARE
Superintendent

DR. MANDY WELCH
Assistant Superintendent
Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

January 29, 2024

Dear Rolla Junior High 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 Junior High were proactively tested on January 3, 2024, 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 100 samples received from Rolla Junior High, 30 handwashing sinks and 1 water fountain were identified as testing over the threshold of 5 parts per billion (ppb).

Classroom Number	Sample Number	1st Test	2nd Test	MCL
Drinking Fountain	5	<1.0	28.3	5
Drinking Fountain Bottle Filler	6	<1.0	14.7	5
Boys Restroom across from AP Office Handsink to	10	9.4	1.1	5

the South				
Teacher Workroom Bathroom Sink	15	13.4	<1.0	5
Cafeteria Handsink in dishwashing area	16	5.9	<1.0	5
Water access to tilt cooker	17	17.2	1.4	5
Hand sink by the refrigerated cooler by entry to the Serving Area	20	6.9	1.2	5
Hand sink by Ice Machine	21	15.3	8.3	5
Prep Sink by Mixer	23	11.2	1.9	5
Prep Sink by Refrigerator	25	7.1	<1.0	5
Art Room North Handsink	42	8.3	<1.0	5
Room 147 Handsink	46	7	<1.0	5
Boys Locker Room North Handsink	56	13.2	<1.0	5
Girls Locker Room East Handsink	60	6.8	1.1	5
Girls Locker Room Coaches Office Handsink	61	11.6	<1.0	5
2nd Floor Girls Restroom by 214 West Handsink	80	17.9	<1.0	5
2nd Floor Boys Restroom by 216 Handsink 1	81	15.6	3.2	5
2nd Floor Boys Restroom by 216 Handsink 2	82	3.5	30.2	5
2nd Floor Boys Restroom by 216	83	4.5	90.8	5

Handsink 3				
Room 204 Handsink by Hall door	85	14	1.5	5
Room 203 NW Handsink	87	39.9	3.7	5
Rm 203 NE Handsink	88	43.7	3.8	5
Room 203 South Wall Handsink - 2nd down from Hall door	90	48.1	7.7	5
Room 203 South Wall Handsink - 3nd down from Hall door	91	48.2	5	5
Room 203 South Wall Handsink - 4th down from Hall door	92	33	3.4	5
Room 202 South Wall Handsink - by Hall door	93	23	1.8	5
Room 202 South Wall Middle Handsink	94	59.7	2.6	5
Room 202 South Wall 3rd Handsink by Classroom door	95	50.9	2.5	5
Room 201 North Wall Handsink 1	96	17.4	<1.0	5
Room 201 North Wall Handsink 2	97	20	1.7	5
Room 201 North Wall Handsink 3	98	30.6	1.6	5

Upon receiving the results, the water source to the sink was turned off and taken out of service until remediation actions such as replacing faucets, lines, or adding water filters are taken. All Rolla Junior High 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 Junior High 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,

Monica Fulton

Dr. Monica Fulton
Assistant Superintendent of HR & Operations