

DR. MONICA FULTON Assistant Superintendent Human Resources & Support Services DR. KYLE DARE Superintendent DR. MANDY WELCH Assistant Superintendent Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

D. Kent King Administration Center

January 22, 2024

Dear Rolla Technical Institute 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 Technical Center 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 68 samples received from Rolla Technical Center, 23 water sources identified below tested over the threshold of 5 parts per billion (ppb).

Classroom	Sample	First Draw	Second Draw	MCL
Hand sink in Girl's Restroom West Hall	8	7.2	<1	5
Water Fountain in West Hall	12	8.4	13.8	5
Handsink in Office	13	6.8	<1	5
Hand sinks in the North Restroom	14	6.8	1.1	5
202 Handsink	17	6.6	<1	5
243 Handsink	27	6.9	1.9	5
244 Handsink	28	16	2.7	5

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237 Handsink	30	10.7	3.3	5
238 Handsink	31	31	1.6	5
239 Handsink	32	7.6	1.1	5
213 Handsink	34	5.8	1.1	5
210 Handsink	37	5.7	<1	5
210 Handsink	38	15.6	<1	5
223 Handsink	41	6.4	<1	5
217 Handsink	46	30.5	<1	5
217 Handsink	47	13.8	1.5	5
314 Handsink	50	6.8	<1	5
314 Handsink	51	7.9	<1	5
312A Handsink	60	5.7	<1	5
310A Handsink	61	5.8	<1	5
316 Handsink	62	83.5	1.8	5
316 Handsink	63	24.9	<1	5
316 Handsink	64	12.5	<1	5

The water sources were taken out of service upon receiving the results until remediations are completed. All Rolla Technical Center School results are on our website (<u>https://www.rolla31.org/district/get_the_lead_out_of_school</u>).

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 Technical Center meets the newly required lead concentration level of less than 5 ppb.

In this case, 22 water sources tested identified the first sample was over the threshold, but the second was under, while 1 sample tested over the threshold in both samples. 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 <u>here</u>.

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 Julton

Dr. Monica Fulton Assistant Superintendent of HR & Operations