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December 8, 2016

Dutchess BOCES Community,

In compliance with a recent New York State law requiring water outlet lead testing in public school buildings, Dutchess BOCES has completed testing of all water sources in the Alternative High School@BETA building.

The Agency followed protocols set forth by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and collected samples from sinks, faucets, and water fountains at the BETA building. The water samples were collected and sent to Smith Laboratories in Hyde Park, New York.

The test results show the following:

A total of 35 water outlets were tested using a first-draw method, which requires the water to sit in the pipes for at least eight hours prior to sampling.

The tests were measured against New York State Department of Health protocol, which sets acceptable limit for lead in water as less than 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$). At the BETA building, 4 of the test samples exceeded the 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$ action level. The remaining 31 water sources were below the 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$ action level.

One of the affected outlets is a classroom utility sink. The remaining water outlets that exceeded the 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$ action level are toilet room sinks in various areas of the building. The sinks are labeled with signage indicating that the water is not to be used for drinking. Lead is not absorbed through skin contact, so these locations are safe for hand washing.

Alternative drinking water will be provided in the affected classroom until the situation is resolved.

Samples were also been taken from the Salt Point Center building on September 17, 2016 and the laboratory results were received on November 4, 2016. Samples were taken at the Career & Technical Institute building on October 22, 2016 and the laboratory results were received on December 2, 2016.

Dutchess BOCES is committed to ensuring the health and well-being of our students and staff. Previous, routine sampling for lead and copper in the water system of the BETA building has not exceeded the 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$ action level. This indicates that the contamination is coming from the outlet hardware (fixture and plumbing components) and not the system as a whole. A long-term remediation plan is being implemented, which includes the replacement of plumbing components and retesting of water sources. Water sources that do not meet the NYSDOH standards will not be used for drinking water until they can be corrected.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Hooley, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services

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www.dcboces.org