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November 16, 2016

Dear Elmira Heights School Community:

Our school system is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community, Elmira Heights Central School District tests our schools drinking water for lead.

Why Test School Drinking Water for Lead?

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years old. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At very high levels, lead can even cause brain damage.

To protect public health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggests that schools and day care facilities test their drinking water for lead. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels about 15 parts per billion (ppb), EPA recommends taking action to reduce the lead.

Is Our Schools' Drinking Water Safe?

Yes, our schools' water is safe. The Elmira Heights Central School District tested our drinking water for lead in the spring of 2016 and the water outlets tested did not have any lead problems. Additional testing was done in the fall of 2016 and test results will be available as soon as they are released from the lab.

How Can I Learn More?

You can see a copy of our water testing results at the school district's central office, which is open Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:00pm. For more information about water quality in our schools please contact Todd VanHouten at 607-734-7114. For information about water quality and sampling for lead at home, contact your local water supplier or state drinking agency.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Fiore
Superintendent of Schools

Enter with high expectations – leave with confidence and pride.