

Monticello CUSD #25

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

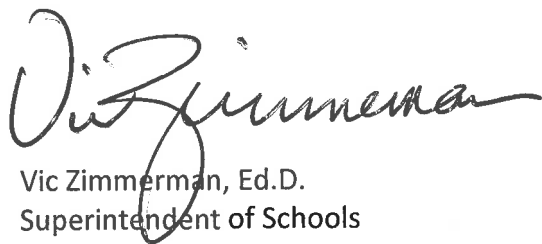
October 2, 2017

Lead Testing and Mitigation

Public Act 99-0922 requires that all schools with students in fifth grade and under built before January 1, 1987 test sources used for drinking water or used for food preparation. Below are the results of this testing and our plan to address problem areas at Lincoln and Washington School (White Heath results are not an issue). Lead in piping was used in all buildings and homes prior to using newer water lines. Due to the age of our buildings a majority of our water lines include lead. Over time these pipes leach some lead into the water – we are required to inform parents when levels are over 5 ppb while the EPA has an actionable benchmark of 15 ppb. On August 16-17, 2017, all elementary classroom sinks and water fountains were tested two times within one minute prior to the start of the school day – the results of these tests were received and analyzed today and a mitigation plan is going into effect immediately.

In most cases it was found that the initial sample was higher in lead than the second sample due to water sitting in the pipes overnight. In some cases it is likely that water was in the pipes over the summer months. We are contacting a plumber to discuss potential options for consideration regarding filtering and piping. Our immediate remedy for these situations includes implementing a Monday morning flushing protocol. We will also only be using sinks in classrooms at Lincoln School for hand-washing and not for drinking water – signs are being posted at all classroom sinks. We do have several water fountains that tested with lead levels under the benchmark at Lincoln School and Washington School which will remain open for use – we are closing the water fountains that tested over the benchmark and we will look at installing filters or replacing these water fountains. We will have some water available for students as well as encouraging students to bring water from home. We will plan to re-test water sources at Lincoln and Washington School several weeks after our mitigation plan is fully in place.

If you have any questions please contact me at 217-762-8511 or via email at zimvi@sages.us.



Vic Zimmerman, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools