

Brian C. Monahan
Superintendent of Schools

Minisink Valley Central School District

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A letter from Superintendent Brian C. Monahan:

The district began performing water quality testing in accordance with legislation signed by Governor Cuomo on September 6. The new law requires all New York State public schools to test for lead levels of all sources of water used, or potentially used, for drinking or cooking.

The State Department of Health and State Education Department have established an action level of 15 parts per billion (PPB). Water sources that test higher than this threshold and are used for drinking water or food preparation must be removed from service while corrective action is taken.

At Otisville Elementary School, all specified sources of water have been tested. Of the 159 samples drawn at Otisville Elementary, 30 tested above the allowable 15 parts per billion; 25 of the 30 sources were attributable to outdoor hose faucets, custodial closet sinks, or dishwashing stations.

The five remaining test results identified three sinks located in the kitchen prep-area and two handwashing sinks. All of these fixtures are clearly marked as "Water not suitable for drinking," and the district has provided bottled water for food preparation and cooking purposes. All of these fixtures will be replaced and retested.

The remaining fixtures (i.e., outdoor hoses faucets, custodial closet sinks) will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Please be assured that we are taking all the necessary steps to ensure that the quality of drinking and cooking water throughout our district meets state regulations. Upon completion of the district's remediation plan and retesting process, we will inform you of the results. The complete test results will be posted on the district's website next week.

Please call me at (845) 355-5115, if you have any questions. For any health-related questions or concerns please contact the Orange County Department of Health at (845) 291-2332.

Brian C. Monahan



Superintendent