



# Regional School Unit No. 18

41 Heath Street Oakland, ME 04963

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Carl Gartley  
Superintendent

Keith Morin  
Asst. Superintendent

To: Families of Belgrade Central School  
Re: Water Test Results  
March 2, 2023

I am writing to provide you with results from the state water safety testing program that our district participates in. We test our water annually for lead and other contaminants. The cut scores for lead are: any test above 4 parts per billion there are recommendations to improve water quality, and any test above 15 parts per billion would be considered a failed test and more aggressive remedies are required. When we test our water in a school, we test every water source in that school (drinking fountains, bottle refill stations, outside spickets, hand wash sinks, etc). For the test we recently conducted at BCS, most water sources that came with less than 1 part per billion, but unfortunately there were 8 water sources above the 4 parts per billion and 1 sink in the library above the 15 parts per billion.

When there is this level of variation in results in the same school, the state officials told us that the most likely cause is that the main water supply is safe, but older water fixtures are causing the failed test. All our drinking fountains and our bottle refill stations at Belgrade Central passed this test with less than 1 part per billion. The water your children is drinking is safe. However, action needs to be taken on the water sources that were identified.

Action Steps: Any fixture that tested above 15 parts per billion will be shut off until it can be replaced as quickly as possible. Any water source above 4ppb we will make sure they are not used for drinking, and we will work to get these replaced as well. At the conclusion of this work, we will retest the fixtures to ensure that the problem has been addressed. I have included a copy of the test results for you to see the raw data. These test results are posted on our website. Here is a link to the test: <https://rsu18.org/compliance/>

If you have any questions about our water test results or our district response, please contact either Principal Bacon or me.

Carl Gartley  
Superintendent of Schools  
RSU 18

# Public Notice: School Lead Water Sample Results

## Information concerning the lead level results for drinking water samples taken at Belgrade Central School

*name of school*

Maine law requires schools to test all drinking water faucets that could be used for drinking or cooking purposes for the presence of lead. This law further requires that parents and staff are made aware of all of the sample results.

During the period of 12 / 13 / 22 to 12 / 14 / 22  
*begin date* *end date*

Water samples were collected from 53 water fixtures.  
*# locations*

*Any sites producing elevated levels of lead (exceeding 4 parts per billion, or ppb), and therefore the faucets of most concern, are listed in the table on the following page(s).*

**Results for all drinking water outlets tested can be viewed here:**

<https://rsu18.org/compliance/>

*Enter website address or physical location*

Statewide test results for Maine schools can also be found the on Maine DWP website at: [www.medwp.com/schools.html](http://www.medwp.com/schools.html)

**How does lead get into the water?** When lead is present in water, it typically leaches, or dissolves, into water flowing through plumbing and fixtures *inside* a building from sources such as solder, pipes, or the faucets themselves. The school's well water or water provided by your local water district are unlikely sources of lead.

**What are the Health Effects of exposure to lead in drinking water?** Infants and children who drink water containing high levels of lead can experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink water containing excess levels of lead over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

**What level of lead is safe?** No level of lead is safe. Because of the potential serious health risks, both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) agree that there is no known safe level of lead in a child's blood.

Please be aware that this sampling is done under conditions that are optimal for identifying lead in water. By having the water sit unused for many hours, lead that might be leaching from pipes or fittings is more easily discovered. However, *these levels are likely not the level of lead present in the drinking water throughout the school day.*

**What can I do?** Here are a few steps you can take to reduce the risk of your child being exposed to lead through school drinking water:

- Provide your child with bottled water or water from your home to reduce their usage of school drinking water outlets. Be sure to sample your home water for lead, too.
- Remind your child to let the water run for 30 seconds before drinking or filling a water bottle at school, which will lower any possible lead concentration.
- Consult your doctor if you have any specific health concerns.



# A & L LABORATORY

A DIVISION OF GRANITE STATE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC.

155 Center Street, Building C, Auburn, Maine 04210  
 Phone (207) 784-5354 website www.allaboratory.com

## CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS FOR DRINKING WATER

**DATE PRINTED:** 01/11/2023  
**CLIENT NAME:** Belgrade Central School

**CLIENT ADDRESS:** 158 Depot Road  
 Belgrade, ME 04917

Legend	
Lead Above 4 ppb	
Lead Above 15 ppb	

**METHOD:** EPA 200.8  
**EPA ACTION LEVEL:** 15 ppb  
**MAINE GUIDELINE:** 4 ppb  
**REPORTING LIMIT:** 1 ppb

**DATE AND TIME RECEIVED:** 12/13/2022 11:10AM  
**ANALYSIS PACKAGE:** Maine Schools-Lead  
**RECEIPT TEMPERATURE:** 10° CELSIUS  
**CLIENT JOB #:** 807

Sample ID #	Location	Sample Type	Outlet Type	Date - Time Water Sampled	Result	Test Units	Pass /Fail	DQ Flag	Analyst	Date - Time Analyzed
2212-02313-001	Outside Office Bottle Fill Station	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:25AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:16PM
2212-02313-002	Outside Office Drinking Water Fountain	I	DWF	12/10/2022 07:25AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:19PM
2212-02313-003	Room 102-Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:23AM	1.5	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:23PM
2212-02313-004	Room 102-Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:23AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:26PM
2212-02313-005	Room 104 (office Conf. Room) Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:17AM	6.7	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:30PM
2212-02313-006	Room 105-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:17AM	2.9	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:34PM
2212-02313-007	Room 106-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:18AM	10.4	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:37PM
2212-02313-008	Staff Bathroom-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:18AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:55PM
2212-02313-009	Room 108 Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:20AM	3.5	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 02:59PM
2212-02313-010	Room 110- Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:20AM	4.4	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:02PM
2212-02313-011	Room 111- Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:20AM	2.3	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:06PM
2212-02313-012	Library -Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 08:00AM	33.4	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:13PM
2212-02313-013	Boys Ganag Bathroom Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:28AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:17PM
2212-02313-014	Boys Ganag Bathroom Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:28AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:20PM
2212-02313-015	Boys Ganag Bathroom Sink C	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:28AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:24PM
2212-02313-016	Boys Ganag Bathroom Sink D	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:28AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:42PM
2212-02313-017	N/ To Girls Gang Bath- Bot Fill Station	I	DWF	12/10/2022 07:31AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:46PM
2212-02313-018	N/To Girls Gang Bathroom #1 DWF	I	DWF	12/10/2022 07:31AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 03:57PM
2212-02313-019	N/To Girls Gang Bathroom #2 DWF	I	DWF	12/10/2022 07:31AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:00PM

Rebecca L. Labranche  
 Laboratory Director



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2212-02313-020	Girls Gang Bathroom -Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:35AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:04PM
2212-02313-021	Girls Gang Bathroom -Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:35AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:07PM
2212-02313-022	Girls Gang Bathroom -Sink C	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:35AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:11PM
2212-02313-023	Girls Gang Bathroom -Sink D	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:35AM	1.1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:14PM
2212-02313-024	Room 128 (Nurse) - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:43AM	2.1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:25PM
2212-02313-025	Room 128 - Bathroom - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:43AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:29PM
2212-02313-026	Room 130- Bathroom - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:45AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:32PM
2212-02313-027	Room 131 -Bathroom - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:45AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:36PM
2212-02313-028	Room 134-Bathroom -Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:45AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:47PM
2212-02313-029	OT/PT -Bathroom-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:12AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:50PM
2212-02313-030	Room 212 Science Lab-Sink-A	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:59AM	12.8	ppb			JLR-NH	01/03/2023 09:24PM
2212-02313-031	Room 212 Science Lab-Sink-B	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:59AM	13.8	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:54PM
2212-02313-032	Room 212 Science Lab-Sink-C	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:59AM	10.9	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 04:58PM
2212-02313-033	Room 212 Science Lab-Sink-D	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:59AM	4.5	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:16PM
2212-02313-034	Boys Bathroom -Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:02AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:19PM
2212-02313-035	Boys Bathroom -Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:02AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:23PM
2212-02313-036	Next To Boys Bathroom Bot Fill Station	I	DWF	12/10/2022 07:04AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:26PM
2212-02313-037	Next To Boys Bathroom DWF	I	DWF	12/10/2022 07:04AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:30PM

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2212-02313-038	Next to Boys Gang Bathroom -DWF	I	DWF	12/10/2022 07:04AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:33PM
2212-02313-039	Staff Restroom -Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:07AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:44PM
2212-02313-040	Girls Gang Bathroom Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:08AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:48PM
2212-02313-041	Girls Gang Bathroom Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 07:08AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 05:59PM
2212-02313-042	By The 3rd Floor Elev. Bottle Fill Station	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:55AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:02PM
2212-02313-043	By The 3rd Floor Elev. D W F	I	DWF	12/10/2022 06:55AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:06PM
2212-02313-044	Across From Gym Bottle Fill Station	I	DWF	12/10/2022 06:49AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:09PM
2212-02313-045	Across From Gym D W F	I	DWF	12/10/2022 06:49AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:13PM
2212-02313-046	Across From Gym Boys Bathroom Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:50AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:17PM
2212-02313-047	Across From Gym Girls Bathroom Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:50AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:20PM
2212-02313-048	Kitchen- Vegetable Wash-Sink	I	KF	12/10/2022 06:45AM	2.2	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:24PM
2212-02313-049	Kitchen - 3 Bay Sink A	I	KF	12/10/2022 06:38AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:45PM
2212-02313-050	Kitchen 3 Bay Sink B	I	KF	12/10/2022 06:38AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:49PM
2212-02313-051	Kitchen- Kettle - Hose Bib	I	KF	12/10/2022 06:46AM	3.8	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:53PM
2212-02313-052	Kitchen- Steamer- Hose Bib	I	KF	12/10/2022 06:46AM	1.5	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 06:56PM
2212-02313-053	Kitchen - Hand Wash Sink	I	KF	12/10/2022 06:45AM	9.2	ppb			DG-NH	12/19/2022 07:00PM

Rebecca L. Labranche  
Laboratory Director



# Information about Lead in Drinking Water for Students, Staff, and Parents



## Health Effects of Lead

If too much lead enters your body from drinking water or other sources, serious health problems can occur, including damage to the brain and kidneys and interference with the production of oxygen-carrying red blood cells.

The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women: During pregnancy, the fetus receives lead from the mother, which may affect brain development. In children, the continuing effects of lead on the brain have been linked to lowered IQ. Furthermore, lead is stored in the bones and can be released later in life, so, adults who were exposed to high levels of lead earlier in life may still encounter kidney problems and high blood pressure.

## Sources of Lead

Lead can be found in many places; knowing the sources of lead can help limit your contact with it. Although most of the reported cases of lead poisoning in Maine have been a result of lead paint dust, exposure can also occur through drinking and cooking with water that has lead, as it can dissolve into water from solder or brass faucets, fittings, and valves. Exposure to lead can also come from jobs and hobbies that utilize materials containing lead, as well as from things you buy such as toys and antiques.

## How Lead Got into Your Water

The most likely source of lead in your water is leaching from lead solder on your pipes or out of brass plumbing materials found in faucets, fittings, and valves.

## Steps You Can Take to Protect Yourself from Lead in Drinking Water

- Run the water for at least 30 seconds or until it becomes noticeably colder before using it for drinking or cooking. The longer water sits in piping, the greater the chance that lead might leach in.
- Use cold water for drinking and cooking as well as for preparing baby formula. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water.
- Clean your faucet aerator (screen) regularly.
- Consider using bottled water or a water filter for drinking and cooking.

\* Remember: Boiling the water does *not* reduce lead levels.

## Find Out More

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>, or contact the Maine Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (866-292-3474) or your health care provider. Your doctor can answer questions about having your child tested for lead.