



Regional School Unit No. 18

41 Heath Street Oakland, ME 04963

V: 207 – 465 – 7384

F: 207 – 465 – 9130

Carl Gartley
Superintendent

Keith Morin
Asst. Superintendent

To: Families of James H. Bean 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 JHB, most water sources that came with less than 1 part per billion, but unfortunately there were 3 water sources above the 4 parts per billion and 1 hand washing sink in the kitchen 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 James H. Bean 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 St. Peter 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 James H. Bean 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 36 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

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: James H Bean School
CLIENT ADDRESS: 2896 Middle Road
 Sidney, ME 04330

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 #: 812

Sample ID #	Location	Sample Type	Outlet Type	Date - Time Water Sampled	Result	Test Units	Pass /Fail	DQ Flag	Analyst	Date - Time Analyzed
2212-02264-001	Across/ Nurses Station Bathroom Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:48AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:31PM
2212-02264-002	Girls Gang Bath Room Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:42AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:34PM
2212-02264-003	Girls Gang Bath Room Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:42AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:38PM
2212-02264-004	Girls Gang Bath Room Sink C	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:42AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:41PM
2212-02264-005	Across from Gym Bottle Fill Station	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:44AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:45PM
2212-02264-006	Boys Gang Bathroom Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:40AM	2.2	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:49PM
2212-02264-007	Boys Gang Bathroom Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:40AM	1.2	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:52PM
2212-02264-008	Boys Gang Bathroom Sink C	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:40AM	1.2	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 10:56PM
2212-02264-009	Gym Bottle Fill Station	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:35AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:14PM
2212-02264-010	PE Teacher(Locker Room) A Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:46AM	7.3	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:17PM
2212-02264-011	Locker Room B - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:45AM	11.3	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:21PM
2212-02264-012	Room 002 Staff Lounge - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:49AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:25PM
2212-02264-013	Room 002 Staff Lounge - Bathroom Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:49AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:28PM
2212-02264-014	Library Kitchen - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:50AM	<1	ppb			JLR-NH	01/03/2023 09:20PM
2212-02264-015	Room 204- Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:52AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:32PM
2212-02264-016	Room 206- Bathroom -Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:54AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:35PM
2212-02264-017	Girls South End Bathroom Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:54AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:39PM

Rebecca L. Labranche
 Laboratory Director



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: James H Bean School
CLIENT ADDRESS: 2896 Middle Road
 Sidney, ME 04330

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 #: 812

Sample ID #	Location	Sample Type	Outlet Type	Date - Time Water Sampled	Result	Test Units	Pass /Fail	DQ Flag	Analyst	Date - Time Analyzed
2212-02264-018	Girls South End Bathroom Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:54AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:53PM
2212-02264-019	South End Bottle Fill Station	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:56AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/16/2022 11:57PM
2212-02264-020	Boys South End Bathroom Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:57AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:08AM
2212-02264-021	Boys South End Bathroom Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:57AM	1.0	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:11AM
2212-02264-022	Room 300-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:59AM	1.0	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:15AM
2212-02264-023	Room 306-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:01AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:18AM
2212-02264-024	Room 307-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:01AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:22AM
2212-02264-025	Room 308-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:01AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:26AM
2212-02264-026	Room 309 -Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:01AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:36AM
2212-02264-027	South End(By Doors) Bottle Fill Station	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:05AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:40AM
2212-02264-028	Room 310 -Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:05AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:44AM
2212-02264-029	Room 311-Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 06:05AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:47AM
2212-02264-030	Kitchen 304-A Bathroom - Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:26AM	4.3	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 12:58AM
2212-02264-031	Kitchen Handwash Station A Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:29AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 01:02AM
2212-02264-032	Kitchen Handwash Station B Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:29AM	27.0	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 01:05AM
2212-02264-033	Kitchen 3 Bay Sink A	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:29AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 01:09AM
2212-02264-034	Kitchen 3 Bay Sink B	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:29AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 01:23AM
2212-02264-035	Kitchen Tilt Skillet	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:30AM	3.0	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 01:27AM
2212-02264-036	Kitchen Vegetable Sink	I	OT	12/10/2022 05:30AM	2.5	ppb			DG-NH	12/17/2022 01:30AM

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.