

HOLLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL

**103 Canada Street
Holland, New York 14080-9806
Telephone (716) 537-8200
FAX # (716) 537-8203**

March 22, 2017

Dear Holland Families;

To protect public health, New York State (NYS) recently enacted a new regulation requiring that every school test their drinking water for lead. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 15 parts per billion (ppb), NYS requires that action be taken to reduce the lead.

It is vital that schools conduct these tests, as high levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like groundwater, rivers, and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and in building plumbing. These materials include lead based solder used to join copper pipe, brass, and chrome-plated brass faucets. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes, and other plumbing materials. However, even the lead in plumbing materials meeting these new requirements is subject to corrosion. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water.

The Holland Central School District tested its drinking water for lead prior to the established deadlines in the legislation. In fact, we conducted our testing on October 26, 2016 and subsequently received our results within the last ten (10) business days. As provided to us under specific protocols, we took first draw water samples, after letting the water remain unmoving in the pipes for 8 hours. Of the 85 water samples we tested, only fifteen (15) showed lead levels above the 15 ppb mark. Listed below are the sites that exceeded the threshold, the result obtained from first draw sampling and the plan for mitigation.

Jr./Sr. High School:

We had fifteen (15) sites that exceeded the action level of 15.0ppb.

Room 212, 8 sinks identified at levels of 21.7, 60.0, 23.4, 16.9, 26.1, 18.5, 19.2, and 87.4. The faucets will be replaced and the source retested.

Room 214, 1 sink identified at a level of 17.0. The faucet will be replaced and the source retested.

Room 221, 1 sink identified at a level of 26.8. The faucet will be replaced and the source retested.

Exterior hose bibs, 5 identified at levels of 276.0, 76.4, 87.1, 537.0, and 131.0. Outside hose bibs will be replaced and the source retested.

**Cathy V. Fabiatos
Superintendent**

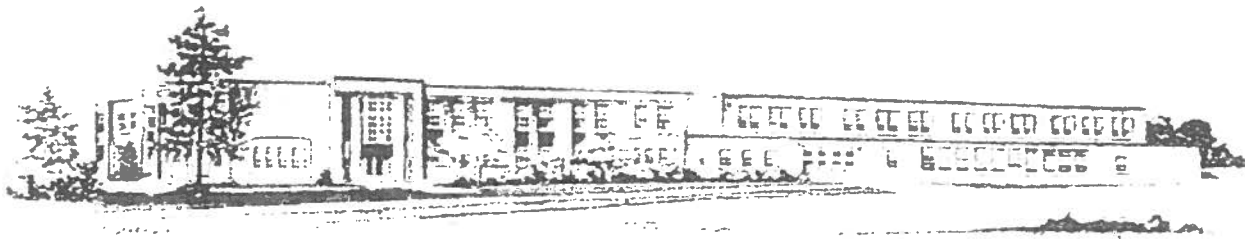
**Laura N. Bosinski
Business Official**

**Jason D. Smith
Elementary Principal**

**Carl A. Guidotti
Jr./Sr. High School
Principal**

**Erik D. Smith
Director of Pupil
Personnel Services**

**Laurie L. Gregory
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All sites have been labeled and are either closed off or in the process of remediation. The time table for the remediation of each of the identified sources will depend on the availability of parts, installation and the process of retesting. It is important to note that none of the sources will be put back in service and available for use until the sources are fully mitigated and meet the New York State Department of Health standards.

You can see a copy of all our water testing results in the Business Office, which is open Monday to Friday from 7:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on our District website at www.holland.wnyc.org. For more information about water quality in our schools, please contact Jay Peplin, Supervisor of Operations at 716-537-8261. For information about water quality and sampling for lead at home, contact your local water supplier or the Erie County Department of Health at 961-6800. If you should have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 716-537-8222.

Sincerely,

Cathy Fabiatos
Superintendent