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November 8, 2016

Dutchess BOCES Community,

In compliance with a recent New York State law requiring water outlet lead testing in public school buildings, Dutchess BOCES has completed testing of all water sources at the Salt Point Center.

The Agency followed protocols set forth by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and collected samples from sinks, faucets, and water fountains at the Salt Point Center. The water samples were collected and sent to Smith Laboratories in Hyde Park, New York.

The test results show the following:

A total of 97 water outlets were tested using a first-draw method, which requires the water to sit in the pipes for at least eight hours prior to sampling.

The tests were measured against New York State Department of Health protocol, which sets acceptable lead limits as 15 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$). At the Salt Point Center, 44 of the test samples exceeded 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$. The remaining 53 water sources were below the 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$ action level.

Three of the affected outlets were drinking fountains in classrooms. The remaining water outlets that exceeded the 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$ action level classroom and toilet room sinks in various areas of the building. The water fountains have been turned off and the sinks are labeled with signage indicating that the water is not to be used for drinking. Lead is not absorbed through skin contact, so these locations are safe for hand washing.

Alternative drinking water will be provided in affected classroom until the situation is resolved.

Samples were also taken from Career and Technical Institute on October 22, 2016 and the Alternative High School @ BETA on October 28, 2016. The Agency will report the results of this testing as soon as they are available.

Dutchess BOCES is committed to ensuring the health and well-being of our students and staff. Previous, routine sampling for lead and copper in the water system of the Salt Point Center has not exceeded the 15 $\mu\text{g/L}$ action level. This indicates that the contamination is coming from the outlet hardware (fixtures and plumbing components) and not the system as a whole. A long-term remediation plan is being implemented, which includes the replacement of plumbing components and retesting of water sources. Water sources that do not meet the NYSDOH standards will not be used for drinking water until they can be corrected.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Hooley, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

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