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November 14, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In July 2022 the state of New Hampshire passed House Bill 1421. This new law requires that schools and child care programs test for lead in drinking water at least three times between 2016 and 2024. (The first of our three tests was completed in March 2019.) Facilities are required to take action when results show lead levels at or above 5 parts per billion (ppb). The actionable level for lead in drinking water prior to HB1421 was 15 ppb.

In compliance with HB1421, we recently completed testing of all locations at which children could possibly obtain drinking water at the Children's Center. (The Magic Moments classroom will be tested by GWRSD staff.) Almost all locations showed levels well below the drinking water lead advisory, including 20 sites that showed no detection (ND). However, three locations were found to have elevated levels: two child handwashing sinks in the Snapdragons classroom and one teacher handwashing sink in the Little Ducklings classroom. The three sinks were clearly posted with "Handwashing Only" signs when we received our test results on November 8, 2022. Children do not fill their water bottles from these sinks (as they use the water bottle filling station), nor since the onset of the pandemic have preschoolers brushed their teeth at our sinks.

Communicating this information to our staff and families is step one. Our next step is to determine remediation options with our plumber (who has already been contacted). These options might include replacing old fixtures and plumbing, and/or installing filters at the three locations. Lead rarely occurs naturally in New Hampshire's drinking water sources and typically enters drinking water due to the wearing away of piping, faucets, fixtures, and other plumbing materials. Testing is the only way to learn whether lead is present. It is important to sample each faucet or water fountain that is used because, as we have found, test results can vary between locations.

The table below shows a list of all the tested outlets and the test results for The Children's Center:

Testing results for The Children's Center located at 180 S. Main St. Wolfeboro  
 Samples taken 10/23/22. Samples tested 10/25/22

Laboratory Sample Identifier	Location	Result Measure Value ug/L (ppb)
M2J1543-01	All Stars short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-02	All Stars Bathroom sink girls	ND
M2J1543-03	All stars bathroom sink boys	ND
M2J1543-04	Amigos tall sink	1.16
M2J1543-05	Amigos short hand sink left	0.511

M2J1543-06	Amigos short hand sink right	ND
M2J1543-07	Busy Bees short hand sink right	2.59
M2J1543-08	Dragonflies short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-09	Dragonflies tall sink	ND
M2J1543-10	Snapdragons tall sink	1.28
M2J1543-11	Snapdragons short hand sink left	7.09
M2J1543-12	Snapdragons short hand sink right	20.8
M2J1543-13	Hallway bathroom sink	2.23
M2J1543-14	Handicapped bathroom sink	ND
M2J1543-15	Jungle Cubs short hand sink	3.79
M2J1543-16	Jungle Cubs tall sink	2.02
M2J1543-17	Kitchen bay sink	ND
M2J1543-18	Kitchen handwashing sink	1.89
M2J1543-19	L'il Angels short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-20	L'il Angels tall sink	ND
M2J1543-21	Ducklings short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-22	Ducklings tall hand sink	6.94
M2J1543-23	Owls short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-24	Owls tall hand sink	ND
M2J1543-25	Penguins short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-26	Penguins tall sink	ND
M2J1543-27	Downstairs hallway water dispenser	ND
M2J1543-28	Cuddlebugs short hand sink	0.448
M2J1543-29	Cuddlebugs tall sink	2.87
M2J1543-30	Loons short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-31	Loons tall hand sink	ND
M2J1543-32	Monkeys short hand sink	ND
M2J1543-33	Monkeys tall hand sink	ND
	ND = not detected	

We now have 180 days to remedy the problems found at the three sites and retest the locations to ensure that lead levels are at or below 5 ppb. We will also test all outlets again a third time by June 2024. Please know we are committed to ensuring that all outlets meet the requirements of the new HB1421. Feel free to contact Nancy Jones, Project Manager (njones@thechildrenscenternh.org) or myself to answer any questions and provide any additional information you may need. In addition, the state has excellent background information and resources available from the Department of Environmental Services that you can find at:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/water/drinking-water/lead#:~:text=Lead%20is%20a%20naturally%20occurring,solder%20that%20connects%20those%20pipes.>

Sincerely,



Teri Ann Cox  
Executive Director

Enhancing the well-being of families and the community  
by meeting the needs of children...

