



Important Update: Lead Testing Results Are In

Dear SCS Community,

This communication is to update SCS parents, students, faculty and staff on the lead testing efforts that the school voluntarily undertook as part of our commitment to provide a healthy and safe school environment.

Samples from all water outlets used for drinking and food preparation (i.e. drinking fountains and faucets) were collected on November 22, 2016, and sent for analysis to Alexin Analytical Laboratories, an Oregon accredited lab. The results of the testing, which were received on January 4, 2017, took several weeks to process due to the recent high demand for similar tests among area school districts.

We are pleased to announce that of the 18 water outlets sampled, **16 outlets indicated that no lead was detected (ND)** at the minimum reporting level (MRL). One outlet (3rd grade restroom) reported a result of 2.6 ppb (parts per billion), well below the EPA's maximum contamination limit (MCL) of 20 ppb. However, because this finding was inconsistent with the results of the 12 other outlets tested in the portable buildings, this fixture will be retested in January.

The downstairs drinking fountain in the main building yielded results of 10.4 ppb, again, below the level that the EPA has deemed remediation necessary. However, out of an abundance of caution and in cooperation with school efforts to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water, the Sherwood Community Friends Church decided to replace the unit.

The drinking fountain will remain out of commission until a second water sample is analyzed to serve as a 2017 baseline and confirmation that lead levels were reduced. This unit was decommissioned prior to students returning to school this morning. The anticipated replacement timeframe is within thirty (30) days. We will let you know when installation is complete. In the meantime, we ask that parents of kindergarten and first grade students be sure to send their children to school with water bottles; additional water bottles will also be provided by the school.

Sherwood Charter School is committed to protecting student, teacher and staff health. As part of our ongoing attention to the quality of water in our facilities, both owned and leased, we will continue to conduct regular testing. We will communicate new information related to this issue as it becomes available.

If you would like a more detailed explanation of the water testing process, the full report is available in hardcopy in the school office and on our school website at:

<http://sherwoodcharterschool.org/wp-content/uploads/Lead-in-Drinking-Water-Test-Results-Report-Final-2016.pdf>

Wishing you a happy and safe 2017!

Principal Joy Raboli