

*North Wildwood School District
Margaret Mace School
Office of the Superintendent
1201 Atlantic Avenue
North Wildwood, New Jersey 08260
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March 24, 2022

Margaret Mace School
1201 Atlantic Avenue
North Wildwood, NJ 08260

Dear Margaret Mace School Community,

Our school system is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, North Wildwood School District tested our school's drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, the North Wildwood School District will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]). This includes turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

Results of our Initial Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), we completed a plumbing profile of the Margaret Mace School. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. Of the samples taken, 13 tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15 µg/l ppb) and 2 tested above the lead action level.

In addition, those outlets have not been used regularly over the past two years as a result of building operational changes due to COVID-19.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, the District implemented immediate remedial measures for any water outlet with a result greater than the prescribed action level.

The table below identifies the drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead, the actual lead level, and what temporary remedial action the Margaret Mace School has taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
CLASSROOM 7 SINK 11/15/21 #7A-MM7-DF	47.8 ppb	Disconnected outlet and plumbing investigated. Outlet will be re-tested. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY"
CLASSROOM 9 SINK 11/15/21 #6A-MM9-DF	19.9 ppb	Disconnected outlet and plumbing investigated. Outlet will be re-tested. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY"

Confirmation testing 1 Results:

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
CLASSROOM 7 SINK 12/20/21 #7A-MM-DF	16.1 ppb	Disconnected outlet and plumbing investigated. Outlet will be re-tested. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY"
CLASSROOM 9 SINK 12/20/21 #1B-MM9-DF	12.5 ppb	Outlet is below 15 ppb.

The entire hallway where Rooms 7 and 9 are located were fitted with an in-line filtration system. The following indicates the testing results following the corrective action.

Confirmation testing 2 Results:

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
CLASSROOM 7 SINK 11/15/21 #2-NWW-RM7-S	1.02 ppb	Disconnected outlet and plumbing investigated. Outlet will be re-tested. Posted signage "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR

Sample Location	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Remedial Action
		HANDWASHING ONLY”

FOLLOWING THE SECOND CONFIRMATION TESTING, ALL AREAS OF THE MARGARET MACE SCHOOL HAVE NOW TESTED BELOW THE ACTION LEVEL OF 15PPB REQUIRED BY REGULATIONS.

Health Effects of Lead

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years of age. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very* high levels, lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

How Lead Enters our Water

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. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person’s total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person’s total exposure to lead.

For More Information


A copy of the test results is available in our central office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents, and can be viewed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and are also available on our website at

www.nwboe.com. For more information about water quality in our schools, contact Mr. Gutierrez at the Facilities Office, at 609-522-1454 ext. 645.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christopher Armstrong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Christopher Armstrong
Superintendent of Schools
North Wildwood School District