



125 State Hwy 146W  
Golconda, IL 62938  
(618) 683-2301

November 8, 2017

RE: Notice of Water Testing

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Senate Bill 0550, signed by Governor Bruce Rauner on January 16, 2017, required all schools housing grade levels Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade built prior to January 1, 2000 to test for lead in water used for drinking and cooking. This sampling was to be completed by December 31, 2017 for schools constructed prior to January 1, 1987.

On September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 water samples were drawn to be tested from the elementary wing and the kitchen in the Pope County Elementary School. These samples were delivered to the Carbondale Central Laboratory of the Illinois Department of Public Health for testing.

The District has received the results from these samples and found that all but one of the sites at the Pope County Elementary School were found to have “non-detectible” lead levels (5 parts per billion or lower) in the water consumed and used by students. The fountain in the gym had an elevated reading (5.33). Although the IDPH indicated to me that the level was safe for consumption, I deemed it a concern and denied access to the fountain. At that point, the custodial staff and school administration began a deducing process to isolate the problem. It was deemed that the point of concern was a shut-off valve. This valve was replaced and another water draw was performed on October 12<sup>th</sup> and delivered to the testing site. The result of the sample was <1.00, and the fountain was reopened for usage.

This information is being presented to you in order that you may know your child’s education and health are of a primary concern to us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Chuck Bleyer,  
Superintendent