

ANDES CENTRAL SCHOOL

85 Delaware Avenue
P.O. Box 248
Andes, New York 13731

Telephone: (845) 676-3166 Fax: (845) 676-3181

Guidance
Nicole Bishop

Superintendent
Robert L. Chakar, Jr., Ed.D.

Treasurer
Janice Stevens

November 14, 2016

Dear School Community Member:

NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo signed legislation on September 6, 2016 requiring all school districts and BOCES to test potable water systems for lead and take responsive actions. Andes Central School completed the required sampling on September 18, 2016; 31 samples in total. The samples were taken from water outlets that included: drinking fountains, classrooms faucets/sinks, and the cafeteria's outlets. All samples were collected based on the US EPA's 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and were sent to a Department of Health approved laboratory for analysis.

The NYS legislation states that if lead levels are above 15 parts per billion at any water outlet, the school must discontinue use of that outlet until remediation steps are taken, re-testing is performed and the results indicate that the outlet is in compliance.

The results of the initial sampling have identified 5 locations as above the 15 parts per billion action level.

They are:

Sample Location	Lead Level (in parts per billion)
Athletic rest room	757.0
Girls locker L	213.0
Girls Locker R	87.8
Boys Locker L	20.1
Boys Locker R	53.6

These locations have been taken out of service and follow up testing is being conducted. They will not be placed back into service until remediation can be conducted and post-remediation sampling indicates they are in compliance.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning. For more information about prevention and risks to lead exposure, please contact your family physician or consult the EPA's website www.epa.gov.

Please be assured that Andes Central School District continues to be proactive in efforts to keep our students and staff safe. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Chakar, Jr.
Superintendent