



SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND-GRANVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Dear Parents and Guardians,

In a continued effort to ensure safe drinking water in schools around the Commonwealth, on April 26, 2016, Governor Charlie Baker and State Treasurer Deb Goldberg announced that \$2 million from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (MCWT) will fund cooperative efforts to help Massachusetts public schools test for lead and copper in drinking water. The funds will provide technical assistance to ensure that public school districts can sample the taps and water fountains in their schools, and to identify any results that show lead and copper contamination over the action level.

With the issues surrounding lead-contaminated water in Flint, Michigan and the recent closing of water taps in the Boston Public Schools, we have volunteered to participate in the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's (Mass DEP) Assistance Program for Lead in Drinking Water. I want to assure you that we have no knowledge of any elevated lead levels in our schools and feel confident that our water samples will all be within normal limits.

This one time water sampling will occur during early September and will not cause any disruption to the school day. If any samples are found to have higher than acceptable concentration of lead or copper, the issue will be addressed immediately and notification will be sent to all parents/guardians. Please remember, the District's participation in this program is entirely voluntary and without charge, and is being done to ensure that all students and staff have access to safe drinking water.

Participating in the Mass DEP program will not interfere with the Southwick Water Department's normal sampling schedule. They will continue to test for the presence of lead and copper every three years on a limited basis. Additionally, the District's water sampling operator will expand its regular lead and copper sampling at the Granville Village School to include any faucets and water fountains that have not been previously sampled.

Please direct any inquiries you may have to my office.

Sincerely,

Jennifer C. Willard
Superintendent