

Oblong Community Unit School District No. 4

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NOTICE TO PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND STAFF

8/22/17

OBLONG CUSD #4

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

In accordance with Illinois Senate Bill 550, which requires lead testing in education facilities and daycare centers, on 8/5/17, Oblong CUSD #4 took 84 samples from 42 outlets from the High School and Elementary School. Two samples were taken from each outlet: a "first draw" sample consisting of water that had laid stagnate in the lines for between 8-18 hours and a second "flush" sample that was collected subsequent to the lines had been flushed for 30 seconds after the first sample was collected. Samples were sent to an EPA-Accredited laboratory for analytical testing. EPA Method 200.8 "Lead in Drinking Water" was performed on all samples.

On August 21, 2017 at just after 4:00 PM we received the results from the August 5th testing. 5 fountains and 15 sink faucets were identified as outlets over 5 parts per billion (ppb) lead in water. Upon receiving test results from Pace Analytical, Oblong CUSD #4 has taken immediate action by decommissioning fountains and faucets identified until further testing can locate the sources of the lead contamination. We then secured alternate drinking water to be provided to our students and staff in those locations. In addition, although not required, we shut off any outlets that were identified below 5 ppb, but above 2 ppb until we have additional information and a water management plan. We still have several fountains working in each building, but will have alternate drinking water to ensure we meet the needs of our students and staff.

The most common source of lead contamination in drinking water is due to the corrosion of lead-containing solder, fixtures and pipes within a building's plumbing system. This corrosion occurs when the water has low pH or is acidic, and/or when the water has a low mineral content.

The EPA's website on Basic Information on Lead in Drinking Water can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

Parents should be advised to contact their healthcare provider with any concerns about their child's health.

The results and locations of outlets over 5 ppb:

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Identifier	Pb Concentration in PPB	Location Description
10398782001 A5-1	7.30	OES Kitchen Faucet Sink
10398782004 A6-2	16.00	OES Kitchen Faucet Sink
10398782008 A8-2	39.20	OES Center Hallway West Fountain
10398782009 A9-1	12.60	OES Center Hallway East Fountain
10398782010 A9-2	25.50	OES Center Hallway East Fountain
10398782012 A10-2	7.50	OES Eastern Hallway Center Fountain
10398782013 A11-1	7.20	OES Teacher's Lounge Sink
10398782024 A16-2	5.00	OES Eastern Hallway South Fountain
10398782025 A17-1	167.00	OES Southeast Corner Room North Sink
10398782026 A17-2	152.00	OES Southeast Corner Room North Sink
10398782027 A18-1	18.40	OES Southeast Corner Room South Sink
10398782028 A18-2	20.90	OES Southeast Corner Room South Sink
10398782029 A19-1	7.70	OES District Office Sink
10398782046 A27-2	5.90	OHS Fountain Outside Basement Level
10398782049 A30-1	11.30	OES Extension 129 Sink
10398782051 A31-1	12.60	OES Extension 128 Sink
10398782057 A34-1	14.20	OES Extension 127 Sink
10398782059 A35-1	9.60	OES Extension 130 Sink
10398782061 A36-1	13.70	OES Extension 131 Sink
10398782062 A36-2	11.40	OES Extension 131 Sink

10398782063 A37-1	13.20	OES Extension 126 Sink
10398782065 A38-1	19.00	OES Extension 122 Sink
10398782067 A39-1	12.50	OES Extension 123 Sink
10398782073 A42-1	26.30	OES Back Kitchen Sink

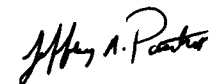
These test results will likely generate questions from parents, guardians, and the public about steps the school is taking to address lead in water. Establishment of a water management plan, including identification of lead-containing plumbing, scheduled flushing, fixture replacement, and monitoring is the best course of action for schools addressing positive lead test results.

Additional guidance for interim (short-term) and permanent lead control measures is provided in the USEPA 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools. This document can be found at:

www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/201509/documents/toolkit_leadschools_guide_3ts_leadschools.pdf

Upon the receiving test results from Pace Analytical, Oblong CUSD #4 has taken immediate action by decommissioning fountains until further investigate testing can locate the exact sources of the lead contamination.

Sincerely,



Jeffery Patchett
CUSD #4 Superintendent