



Daniel Fishbein, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

# RIDGEWOOD

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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June 6, 2017

Dear Hawes School Community,

Our school system, committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health, is testing all of our schools' drinking water for the presence of lead, as required to be in compliance with New Jersey Department of Education regulations. The results are now coming in, and we are releasing the information as we receive it for each school.

Following technical instructions developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within the Ridgewood Public Schools. Through this effort, we identified and are testing all drinking water and food preparation outlets.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, immediate remedial measures will be implemented for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15  $\mu\text{g/l}$  (parts per billion [ppb]). This measure includes turning off the outlet.

### Testing Results for Hawes School

Of the 18 samples taken at Hawes School, all but one tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency for lead in drinking water (15  $\mu\text{g/l}$  [ppb]).

The table below identifies the drinking water outlet(s) that tested above the 15  $\mu\text{g/l}$  for lead, the actual lead level, and what temporary remedial action the Ridgewood Public Schools has taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

Location	First Draw Result in $\mu\text{g/l}$ (ppb)	Remedial Action
Room 92S I.D. # 18-17	16.1	Non-potable water marking

### 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 six 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 the 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 six. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

#### For More Information

Attached to this letter are the laboratory results for your school. A copy of the test results is also available in the Business Office, 49 Cottage Place, for inspection by the public -- including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents and guardians -- between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. In addition, the results may be found on the district website at [www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us](http://www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us).

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, please visit the EPA's web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://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, you may want to ask your healthcare providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Lastly, please note that **ALL NON-FILTERED WATER FOUNTAINS WILL BE REPLACED OVER THE SUMMER OF 2017.**

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions or concerns-at 201-670-2700, ext. 10530.

Sincerely,



Daniel Fishbein, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

C: Ridgewood Board of Education



Environmental Hazards Services, L.L.C.  
7469 Whitepine Rd  
Richmond, VA 23237  
Telephone: 800.347.4010

## Lead in Drinking Water Analysis Report

**Client:** LEW Corp  
1090 Bristol Rd  
Mountainside, NJ 07092

**Report Number:** 17-04-01461

**Received Date:** 04/12/2017

**Reported Date:** 04/18/2017

**Sampled By:** Cheyenne Fryer

**Tech Certification #:**

**Project/Test Address:** 170071; 531 Stevens Ave; Ridgewood, NJ

**Client Number:**  
201327

## Laboratory Results

**Fax Number:**  
Ext 18

Lab Sample Number	Client Sample ID	Collection Date	Collection Location	Concentration ug/L (ppb)	Analysis Date	Narrative ID
17-04-01461-001	18-1	04/08/2017	MAIN OFFICE KITCH S	4.24	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-002	18-2	04/08/2017	NURSES OFF S	6.02	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-003	18-3	04/08/2017	NURSES OFF BTH S	1.95	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-004	18-4	04/08/2017	CLASSRM 99 BB	6.01	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-005	18-5	04/08/2017	CLASSRM 98 BB	2.89	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-006	18-6	04/08/2017	LOBBY WF	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-007	18-7	04/08/2017	CORRIDOR 1 WF	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-008	18-8	04/08/2017	CORRIDOR 1 WF	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-009	18-9	04/08/2017	CORRIDOR 2 WF	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-010	18-10	04/08/2017	CORRIDOR 2 WF	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-011	18-11	04/08/2017	FACULTY LOUNGE S	3.59	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-012	18-12	04/08/2017	RM 126 BB	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-013	18-13	04/08/2017	CORRIDOR 3 WF	9.36	04/17/2017	

# Environmental Hazards Services, L.L.C

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**Report Number:** 17-04-01461

**Project/Test Address:** 170071; 531 Stevens Ave; Ridgewood, NJ

Lab Sample Number	Client Sample ID	Collection Date	Collection Location	Concentration ug/L (ppb)	Analysis Date	Narrative ID
17-04-01461-014	18-14	04/08/2017	CORRIDOR 3 WF	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-015	18-15	04/08/2017	CORRIDOR 3 WF	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-016	18-16	04/08/2017	RM 124 BB	<1.00	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-017	18-17	04/08/2017	RM 92 S	16.1	04/17/2017	
17-04-01461-018	18-18	04/08/2017	SUN ROOM	<1.00	04/17/2017	

**Method:** SM 3113B-2010

**Accreditation #:** NJ VA008

Reviewed By Authorized Signatory: Melissa Kanode

*Missy Kanode*

QA/QC Clerk

Sample Results denoted with a "less than" (<) sign contain less than the reporting limit which is 1 ppb.

The EPA Maximum Contaminant Level for Lead in Drinking Water is 15 ppb. The results herein conform to NELAC standards, where applicable, unless otherwise narrated on this report. Results represent the analysis of samples submitted by the client. Sample location, description, field parameter results, etc., were provided by the client. This report cannot be reproduced, except in full, without written approval from Environmental Hazards Services, L.L.C.

LEGEND      ug/L = micrograms per liter      ppb = parts per billion