

April 11, 2022

Delaware Valley School for Exceptional Children  
87 Pearson Dr.  
Hamilton, NJ 08610

Dear DVSEC Community,

We are committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, Delaware Valley School for Exceptional Children (DVSEC) tested the school's drinking water for lead.

In accordance with the Department of Education regulations, DVSEC will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the action level of 15 µg/l (parts per billion [ppb]). This includes turning off the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain on for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

#### Testing Results

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, we completed a plumbing profile of our building. Through this effort, we identified and tested drinking water and food preparation outlets.

The table below identifies the drinking water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead, the actual lead level, and what temporary remedial action DVSEC has taken to reduce the levels of lead at these locations.

<b>Sample Location</b>	<b>First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)</b>	<b>Remedial Action</b>
Cafeteria Food Preparation Sink	26.4	Disconnected outlet. Replaced with bottled water for food preparation. Posted signage: "DO NOT DRINK- SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY"

#### 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 6 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 your 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 negatively impact 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 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

### For More Information

A copy of the test results is available in our main office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents, and can be viewed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and are also available on our website at [www.dvsec.org](http://www.dvsec.org). For more information about water quality in our school, contact the school principal at 609-888-0101.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit 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 at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Sincerely,



Madhuri Rodriguez  
Principal



New Jersey Department of Health  
 Environmental and Chemical Laboratory Services  
 PO Box 361, Trenton, NJ 08625-0361  
 NJDEP Lab ID#: 11036  
 EPA Lab ID#: NJ01351

Client Address:  
 Drinking Water Lead and Copper Testing  
 87 Pearson Dr.  
 Hamilton NJ, 08610

Delaware Valley School for Exceptional Children  
 Report Date: 04/11/2022 10:59

Client Sample ID: **Delaware Valley School for Exce**  
 Sample Location: Kitchen  
 Field ID No: Kitchen Sink  
 Sample Type: First Draw

Lab Number: 22C2316-01  
 Sampled: 3/22/2022 7:30:00AM  
 Received: 3/23/2022 1:42:00PM

Analyte	Result	Qualifier	Method Detection Limit	Reporting Limit	Units	Prepared	Analyzed	Method
<b>Metals by EPA 200 Series Methods</b>								
Copper	185		0.025	1.00	ug/L	04/06/2022	04/11/2022 09:15	EPA 200.8
Lead	26.4		0.011	1.00	ug/L	04/06/2022	04/11/2022 09:15	EPA 200.8

**Notes and definitions:**

JR Approximate value. Result is below the reporting level but greater than the method detection limit.

**Case Narrative Section:**

NJDOH PHEL

Dave Riker, Organic Testing Laboratory Supervisor

Doug Haltmeier, Inorganic Testing Laboratory Supervisor