



Message to Parents and Community - Lead Detected Greater Than or Equal to 20 ppb

November 18, 2019

Dear Lynden School District School Community:

In 2017, the Legislature directed the Washington State Department of Health to test for lead in drinking water in public schools in an effort to reduce children's overall exposure to lead in the environment. In anticipation of repurposing the Main Street Campus (formerly the old Lynden Middle School site) at 516 Main Street, as a Pre-kindergarten center and district administration offices within the next two years, the district has elected to participate in the state testing program and has requested baseline testing of water fixtures throughout the facility. Results of the testing will be used to assess lead levels in drinking water, and will help in the development plans for plumbing upgrades as needed.

What did we learn?

On September 19, 2019, DOH staff sampled fifty-three fixtures at the Main Street Campus located at 516 Main Street. This represents every fixture that provides drinking water, every fixture used to prepare food, and a number of hand-wash and utility fixtures. Testing was done following an extended period of non-use for many of the fixtures, in some cases, as long as one year.

Results show that eight water samples had lead levels above 20 parts per billion (ppb).

What are we doing?

- We have taken all fixtures that have tested above EPA action levels out of service.
- We are working to replace supply valves, supply lines and fixtures for identified fixtures.
- We are coordinating with the DOH to retest identified fixtures following replacement.

Why is lead a problem?

Children are exposed to lead from a variety of sources in their environments. Exposure sources include dust from old, deteriorating lead paint, contaminated soil, take-home exposures from parents who work in certain industries, and many others. Each of these sources contribute to the amount of lead in the bodies of children. It is important to reduce exposure from every source as much as possible. Children six years old and younger are the most susceptible to the effects of lead. Their growing bodies absorb more lead than adults and their brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead. Even at very low levels of exposure to lead, children may experience effects including lower IQ levels, reduced attention span, hyperactivity, poor classroom performance, or other harmful physical and behavioral effects.

How can I learn more?

Water testing results are available at the district office and on our website www.lynden.wednet.edu. For more information about water quality in our schools, please contact Facilities Supervisor, Reed Gillig at 360-354-8679. If you are concerned that your child has been exposed to lead for any reason ask your healthcare provider about having them screened for lead.

Sincerely,
Reed Gillig
Facilities Supervisor
Lynden School District #504

News Release for Lead Detected Greater Than or Equal to 20 ppb

For immediate release: November 18, 2019

Contact: Reed Gillig, Facilities Supervisor, 360-354-8679

Lead Found in Drinking Water at Main Street Campus, 516 Main Street, Lynden, WA

LYNDEN - Results from recent drinking water tests at the Lynden School District's Main Street Campus, formerly the Lynden Middle School site located at 516 Main Street, found lead present in eight fixtures. All fixtures identified with lead levels above EPA action threshold have been taken out of service and are being replaced.

On September 19, 2019, health officials from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) sampled fifty-three fixtures at Main Street Campus. This represents every fixture that provides drinking water, or is used to prepare food, and a number of hand washing and utility fixtures. The water samples showed eight fixtures with lead levels above 20 parts per billion.

"Our students' health and safety is our top priority. When we had the opportunity for the state to test the water we were anxious to participate. While the Main Street Campus is largely vacant and is not currently housing students, the district *is* moving forward with plans to repurpose a portion of the campus for Pre-kindergarten classrooms and district administration offices. Results of the water testing will help us in our planning and construction efforts," said Superintendent Jim Frey.

The District is working closely with the Department of Health on permanent remediation activities. The fixtures that exceed the EPA recommended action levels of 20 parts per billion lead have been taken out of service and efforts to replace the identified fixtures and associated plumbing are under way. The state DOH has volunteered to retest replaced fixtures ahead of any use by students, staff or the general public.

Parents concerned about their child's lead exposure for any reason should ask their healthcare provider about lead screening.

In 2017, the Legislature directed DOH to test for lead in drinking water in public schools in an effort to reduce children's overall exposure to lead in the environment. The water testing followed federal and state guidelines for sample collection and testing. Information about the lead testing program, including laboratory results, can be found at the district office Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



Name of Sampler: Lisa Christensen
Date Collected: 09/19/2019
School Name: Old Middle School Building
School Code: NA
School District: Lynden
School Address: 516 Main Street, Lynden WA 98264
School County: Whatcom
Number of Samples Collected: 53
School Point of Contact (POC): Reed Gillig
POC Title: Facilities Supervisor
POC Email: GilligR@lynden.wednet.edu
POC Phone Number: (360) 319-7451
Date Samples Sent to Lab: 09/20/2019
Date Samples Received by Lab: 09/24/2019
Shipment Tracking Number: 789953325471, 789953325482

Program ID	Sample Type	Description	Location	Lead Results (ppb)	Analysis Date	Comments
25772	other	other		<1	09/24/2019	10853, 7:30 AM
25773	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Upper Gym South	9	09/25/2019	
25774	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Menâ s Locker Room	1	09/24/2019	
25775	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Lower Gym Northeast	13	09/24/2019	
25776	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Facility Shop Drinking Fountain	3	09/24/2019	
25777	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Near Auditorium Main Floor Across from Room 31	<1	09/24/2019	
25778	FirstDraw	Bubbler	2nd floor Auditorium	16	09/24/2019	
25779	FirstDraw	Tap	Old Preschool Room	10	09/24/2019	
25780	FirstDraw	Tap	Admin Office Sink	6	09/24/2019	

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Program ID	Sample Type	Description	Location	Lead Results (ppb)	Analysis Date	Comments
25781	FirstDraw	Tap	Staff Lounge	7	09/24/2019	Main Street Campus
25782	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Cafeteria	1	09/24/2019	
25783	FirstDraw	other	Kitchen	2	09/24/2019	Kitchen starts at 3AM (food goes to preschools), sprayer used this morning
25784	FirstDraw	Tap	Library Office	8	09/24/2019	
25785	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Main Hall Intersection next to Library	5	09/24/2019	Left
25786	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Main Hall Intersection next to Library	3	09/24/2019	Right
25787	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 13	54	09/24/2019	Left Sink, leaks at base
25788	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 13	1	09/24/2019	Middle Sink
25789	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 13	1	09/24/2019	Right Sink
25790	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Down Hall from Room 3	4	09/24/2019	
25791	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 5	16	09/24/2019	
25792	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 5	22	09/24/2019	
25793	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 6	26	09/24/2019	
25794	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 6	5	09/24/2019	Leaks at base, white deposit accumulation on tap
25795	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 7	10	09/24/2019	
25796	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 7	2	09/24/2019	

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Program ID	Sample Type	Description	Location	Lead Results (ppb)	Analysis Date	Comments
25797	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 8	22	09/24/2019	
25798	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 8	13	09/24/2019	
25799	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 9	31	09/24/2019	Bubbler a little loose
25800	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 9	5	09/24/2019	A little leaky
25801	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 14	5	09/24/2019	Left Sink
25802	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 14	6	09/24/2019	Left Sink
25803	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 14	15	09/24/2019	Middle Sink
25804	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 14	587	09/25/2019	Right Sink
25805	FirstDraw	Tap	Room between 14 and 15	437	09/25/2019	
25806	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 15	4	09/24/2019	Left Sink, some mineral deposits on tap
25807	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 15	5	09/24/2019	Right Sink
25808	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 15	36	09/24/2019	Right Sink
25809	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Room 16	8	09/24/2019	Left Sink
25810	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 16	2	09/24/2019	Left Sink
25811	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 16	7	09/24/2019	Middle Sink
25812	FirstDraw	Tap	Room 16	3	09/24/2019	Right Sink
25813	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Roundhouse, Room 21	6	09/25/2019	
25814	FirstDraw	Tap	Roundhouse, Room 21	2	09/24/2019	
25815	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Roundhouse, Room 20	6	09/24/2019	
25816	FirstDraw	Tap	Roundhouse, Room 20	10	09/24/2019	
25817	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Roundhouse, Room 19	1	09/24/2019	
25818	FirstDraw	Tap	Roundhouse, Room 19	6	09/24/2019	
25820	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Roundhouse, Room 18	19	09/24/2019	

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Program ID	Sample Type	Description	Location	Lead Results (ppb)	Analysis Date	Comments
25821	FirstDraw	Tap	Roundhouse, Room 18	3	09/25/2019	
25822	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Roundhouse, Room 17	1	09/25/2019	
25823	FirstDraw	Tap	Roundhouse, Room 17	1	09/25/2019	
25824	FirstDraw	Bubbler	Roundhouse, Room 22	3	09/25/2019	
25825	FirstDraw	Tap	Roundhouse, Room 22	1	09/25/2019	