

# SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Superintendent of Schools*



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## A Letter from Superintendent Jonathan W. Buhner

December 8, 2016

Dear Colonie Central High School Parents and Staff Members,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 the District received preliminary results of water quality testing which is being performed in all of our schools in accordance with legislation signed by Governor Cuomo on September 6, 2016. The new law requires all New York State public schools to test all water sources for lead contamination. The State Department of Health and the State Education Department have established an action level threshold of 15 parts per billion or .015 mg/L. The water sources that test above this level must be immediately taken out of service and corrective action must be taken.

It is important to note that South Colonie Central School District has followed its own water testing protocols initiated approximately 15 years ago, long before the state initiated this recent legislation. Since then, South Colonie's Operations and Maintenance staff members have conducted random samplings of drinking water sources at all sites across the District.

The majority of water testing results for Colonie Central High School have been received by District officials. All potable water sources at Colonie Central High School were tested over the last month including drinking fountains, sink faucets in classrooms, restrooms, and faucets in the kitchen/cafeteria areas. Of the 175 samples which were received back from testing, 19 were above the allowable .015 mg/L or 15 parts per billion as per the new regulations. Of these 19 sources, 17 were sink faucets and two (2) were drinking fountains. Please note that the drinking fountains were just above 0.15 mg/L and the tests were conducted with "standing water". The tests had to be conducted without running the water first.

G826	Sink in G-82	.081 mg/L
G813	Sink in G-81	.025 mg/L
G815	Sink in G-81	.016 mg/L
G817	Sink in G-81	.018 mg/L
HLGL	Sink in Lower Girls Locker Room	.016 mg/L
HPO	Sink in Principal's Office	.140 mg/L
H1561	Sink in Room 156	.054 mg/L
H15611	Sink in Room 156	.040 mg/L

H1571	Sink in Room 157	.060 mg/L
H1572	Sink in Room 157	.033 mg/L
H1573	Sink in Room 157	.071 mg/L
HSSDL	Sink in Girls Locker Room (PIT)	.029 mg/L
H2GG2	Sink in Girls Bathroom (West Wing)	.027 mg/L
H209	Sink in Room 209	.021 mg/L
HD202	Drinking Fountain Outside Room 202	.017 mg/L
H2022	Sink in Room 202	.029 mg/L
H2023	Sink in Room 202	.063 mg/L
HGS1	Sink in G-Wing Staff Bathroom	.097 mg/L
HS018	Drinking Fountain Near Room G-78	.016 mg/L

As would be expected, the District has immediately shut off water to the affected sources listed above and will be taking remedial steps pending another water quality test. As a follow-up, additional water tests will be conducted to ensure the remediation was successful at each location before placing any of the sinks or the two fountains back in service for students and staff members.

Please be assured that we will continue to take the necessary steps to meet these new state standards and to ensure safe water quality standards throughout our District.

Please call me at (518) 869-3576, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jonathan W. Buhner  
Superintendent of Schools

### **Resources for Parents**

[New York State Department of Health Regulations for new water testing law](#)

New York State Department of Health: [Information for Child Care Providers and Schools](#)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: [Basic Information About Lead in Drinking Water](#)

Governor Cuomo signs Landmark Legislation to Test Drinking Water in New York Schools for Lead Contamination, [Press Release](#)