

COPIAGUE

PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Dr. Kathleen Bannon, Superintendent of Schools

May 9, 2017

Dear Staff,

Following regional and national concerns regarding the quality of institutional water, the New York State Department of Health adopted an emergency regulation mandating that all public schools test lead levels in water from every outlet that is being used, or could potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. If lead is found at any water outlet at a level above 15 parts per billion (ppb), schools are required to take action to reduce the exposure to lead.

The Copiague School District contracted with J.C. Broderick and Associates, an environmental consulting firm, to test its water for concentrations of lead. In total, 356 potable and non-potable water sources were tested, including bathroom sinks, water fountains, kitchen sinks, classroom sinks, custodial sinks, hose bibs and utility connections. Of those 356 tested, 31 sources revealed lead levels above the action level set by the NYS Department of Health.

Upon receiving the results, all areas that tested above state guidelines were immediately taken offline by the district. Failing fixtures will be replaced, retested and only after test results are below the NYS action level will the fixtures be placed back in service. Outlets that tested below the action level remain in service with no restrictions.

The health and safety of our students and staff has always been, and will remain, our top priority. Information about the lead testing, including copies of all laboratory results, can be found on the district's website, www.copiague.k12.ny.us. For further information, please contact the district's facilities office at 631-842-4015, ext. 560.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kathleen Bannon'.

Dr. Kathleen Bannon
Superintendent
Copiague Public Schools