



**East Lansing – Meridian  
Water and Sewer Authority**  
2470 Burcham Drive  
East Lansing, Mi 48823 – (517) 337-7535



November 16, 2023

Dear Superintendent Hood,

At the school district's request, ELMWSA conducted water testing at Central Montessori School on October 19 and November 8. This testing included general chemistry testing, bacteriological testing, and lead sampling. Four lead samples were taken in classrooms as part of the testing. Two of the tests did not detect any lead. The test for classroom 102 had a result of 2 parts per billion (ppb). The test for classroom 103 had a result of 9 parts per billion (ppb).

Based on what ELMWSA staff observed during their site visit, they believe the recent work to the building caused material that contained lead to enter the water supply of that portion of the building. ELMWSA staff recommends that each aerator be cleaned throughout the building. This will help to prevent lead particulates that may be trapped on aerators from allowing lead to leach in to the water supply.

There is no lead in our public distribution system. The water service line for Central Montessori is copper and Meridian Township only uses compression fittings in all water service lines (i.e. no solder is ever used in water service lines). However, many buildings do have lead solder that was used to join the copper plumbing pipes in the building. In 1986 Congress Amended the Safe Drinking Water Act, prohibiting the use of pipes, solder or flux that were not "lead free" in public water systems or plumbing in facilities providing water for human consumption. Therefore, buildings built prior to 1987 are more likely to have lead solder used in the plumbing of the building.

A law was recently signed by Governor Whitmer which will enhance the safety of drinking water in public schools. This law will require lead filters on all faucets that are to be used for human consumption. These new rules are set forth in Michigan House Bill No. 4341 and 4342.

The following is a quote from the Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy that relates to lead in drinking water. "There is no known safe level of lead exposure for children. EGLE recommends that action is taken to reduce the risk of lead in water at all fixtures with test results **greater than 5 parts per billion (ppb)** and encourages schools and childcare facilities to reduce lead levels to the lowest possible amounts."

I would also like to invite you to have a discussion with me and our Laboratory Supervisor, Forest Herald. We can talk with you about any of the information that I have presented to you in this letter. The East Lansing Meridian Water and Sewer Authority would also like to retest these faucets after proper cleaning and flushing to verify that this process has helped to lower the lead levels.

Please contact me with any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,



Joel Martinez

Manager

East Lansing Meridian Water and Sewer Authority

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