



Sullivan County Board of Cooperative Educational Services

6 Wierk Avenue ■ Liberty, New York 12754 ■ Tel. (845) 295-4000 ■ Fax (845) 292-8694

November 9, 2016

Dear School Community Member:

As you may know, in early September Governor Cuomo signed a law requiring all public school districts and BOCES to test water for lead. All water outlets currently or potentially used for drinking or cooking purposes in buildings occupied by students must be tested. The state set an “action level” of 15 micrograms of lead per liter, often referred to as parts per billion (ppb). When the concentration of lead exceeds this level, the law requires schools to take steps to prevent the use of the outlet for drinking or cooking purposes until it is remediated and follow-up testing confirms it is no longer above the action level.

Sullivan County BOCES collected a total of two-hundred and seventy-nine (279) water samples. The testing was completed in buildings the BOCES owns as well as spaces that are leased for instructional purposes. *All lab results received to date are posted to the Sullivan County BOCES website www.scboces.org.*

The breakdown of the test samples and results by building location is as follows:

Location	Samples Collected	Samples Above Action Level & Outlet Type	Remediation Actions
Rubin Pollack Education Center (RPEC)	135	3 (1 classroom sink & 2 outside faucets)	Classroom sink shut off. Repairs underway & retesting to follow. Outside faucets labeled not for drinking purposes, repairs to be completed & re-testing to follow.
Ag/Mech Building	8	0	None Required
Alternative Education Building	14	2 (Outside faucets)	Outside faucets labeled not for drinking purposes, repairs to be completed & re-testing to follow.
White Sulphur Springs ♦	47	5 (1 classroom sink, 3 restroom sinks & 1 outside faucet)	Classroom sink shut off. Repairs underway & retesting to follow. Restroom sinks labeled not for drinking water. Outside faucets labeled not for drinking purposes, repairs to be completed & re-testing to follow.
Saint John St. Building ●	56	2* (Water Fountains)	Water fountains shut off, repairs underway, retesting to follow. Alternate drinking water provided to students and staff.
Administration Building ■	18	2* (Outside faucets)	Outside faucets labeled not for drinking purposes, repairs to be completed & retesting to follow.
Maintenance Building	1	0	None Required

* Not all sample results have been received from the lab for this location. Results will be shared when received.

♦ Building leased from Liberty CSD

● Building leased from Monticello CSD

■ Building leased from Liberty Properties

The regulations call for testing to take place again in 2020 and every five (5) years thereafter, unless the Commissioner of Health requires testing sooner. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning. For more information about prevention and risks to lead exposure, please contact your family physician or consult the EPA’s website www.epa.gov.

Please be assured that Sullivan BOCES will continue to be proactive in our efforts to keep our students and staff safe. Please feel free to contact your child’s building principal, BOCES Health & Safety Coordinator Jesse Morrill at (845)-295-4028.

Sincerely,

Susan A. Schmidt
Interim CEO/Deputy Superintendent