From: Superintendent
To: EPS.MailList

Subject: Update on water testing results

Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 11:52:57 AM

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Dear colleagues:

I am happy about several things happening in our schools this summer. We have had a record number of students taking summer programs at schools throughout the district, some to graduate, others to bolster their academic skills in elementary, middle and in high school. And, Everett Public Schools students are also reading, reading this summer as part of the second annual summer reading program.

Another important activity that has happened in our schools this summer is water testing. In May, we initiated testing for lead in drinking water at all schools and three district facilities as a safety measure. Initial results showed that all but seven of the 799 faucets/fixtures tested across the district (99.4 percent) were below the Environmental Protection Agency's recommended 20 parts per billion(ppb) for lead in drinking water for schools and childcare facilities. We conducted additional testing in July for those seven faucets and seven faucets/fixtures that were between 15 and 20 ppb. Results from follow-up tests of district water confirm that 100 percent of faucets/fixtures tested are well below the EPA recommended action level for lead. You can read a detailed news release on the district website.

There is no federal requirement for testing for lead in drinking water, however the district will conduct testing in alignment with EPA guidelines every five years for those facilities that have had a result in the past and new facilities. Information about testing water for lead is available on the Washington State Department of Health website and on the Environmental Protection Agency website.

I hope you enjoy the remainder of your summer break and we look forward to a successful school year.

Regards,

Gary

