



Our students will lead and shape the future

## News release

Aug. 12, 2016

### **100 percent of district water fixtures tested below EPA limits for lead**

*Results from follow-up tests of district water confirm that all faucets/fixtures tested are below EPA recommended action level for lead*

Results from follow-up tests confirm that 100 percent of the faucets/fixtures tested are below the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommended 20 parts per billion (ppb) for lead in drinking water for schools and childcare facilities.

Everett Public Schools commissioned districtwide testing for lead in drinking water at all schools and three district facilities in May and June as a proactive safety measure. Seven of the 799 faucets/fixtures tested came back with slightly higher than the EPA's recommended level of 20 ppb for schools and childcare facilities. The district conducted additional testing on the seven fixtures identified above 20 ppb and seven additional fixtures that were between 15 and 20 ppb.

The additional testing—a second draw test—consisted of non-use of the faucet/fixture for 12 hours and then collection of a sample after running the water for 30 seconds. Results from the second draw tests were substantially lower—less than half of the EPA recommended maximum for lead—and no additional action is required:

<u>Location</u>	<u>First Draw (ppb)</u>	<u>Second Draw (ppb)</u>
Lowell Elementary classroom 130	24.9	5.31
North Middle staff room	26.1, 36.7	2.69, 2.18
North Middle classroom 225	23.1	6.89
North Middle classroom 220	22.4	1.99
Memorial Stadium	23.8, 21.4	7.89, 7.07

“We care deeply about the safety of our students, staff and community and providing safe, clean water in our district facilities,” said MaryHelen Pierce, construction manager. “We are confident in our efforts and the safety of our water.”

There is no federal requirement for testing for lead in schools, 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. Find more information about testing water for lead on the [Washington State Department of Health website](#) and on the [Environmental Protection Agency website](#).

[July 1 news release on initial results](#)

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