

Deposit Central School District

**Denise Cook
Superintendent of Schools**

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November 18, 2016

Dear Deposit Community Member,

As you may or may not be aware, on September 6, 2016, Governor Cuomo signed legislation making New York the first state in the nation to require all school districts to test potable water systems for lead contamination and to take responsive actions if necessary. The newly released New York State Department of Health regulations have defined a considerably higher standard for acceptable levels of lead than that previously defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which was 20 parts per billion (ppb). Under this new standard, an "action plan" must be developed for any outlet where lead levels are found to be above 15 parts per billion (ppb). An *outlet* is defined as any water supply (fountain, faucet, etc.) which is used, or may potentially be used, for drinking or cooking.

The Deposit Central School District has taken this new regulation seriously and contracted with engineering and environmental testing firms who specialize in this work. We have contracted with these professionals to ensure that only drinking outlets meeting this new high standard will be available to our students, staff and public. **Outlets identified as exceeding the acceptable level have been taken out of operation and will remain out until remediated.** The results of the newly required testing conducted at all sites within the District are below:

| Location | Number of Outlets Tested | Number of Outlets Exceeding Acceptable Level |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Deposit Middle/High School | 84 | 13 |

Please be assured that both municipal and well sources of water in the District are regularly tested and meet all safety standards. It's important to note that the outlets that exceeded the acceptable level are considered to be non-consumption areas such as bathroom sinks, custodial closets and laboratory sinks. In addition to terminating the use of the affected outlets, our short term remediation plan includes flushing the outlets and retesting. Regardless, our long term remediation at these outlets is already under way. Should an outlet still exceed limits following retesting, the outlet will be completely replaced with lead free fixtures.

School safety is paramount to the mission of the Deposit Central School District and we are committed to providing a safe, secure learning environment. A copy of our test results are available on our website at www.depositcsd.org Should you have questions, please contact the District Office at 607.467.5380 or the New York State Health Department at 607.432.3911

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