

JOEL HALL
SUPT. OF SCHOOLS
PRE K-12 PRINCIPAL

DANIEL HODGINS
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ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ashland District School

180 PRESQUE ISLE ROAD • P.O. BOX 369 • ASHLAND, MAINE 04732
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LYNWOOD L. McHATTEN, JR.
GUIDANCE DIRECTOR

September 14, 2022

To the Parents, Guardians, Students and Staff of Ashland District School,

I am writing this letter to inform you of new lead testing requirements that are required for all public Schools in the State of Maine. In March of 2022, Ashland District School participated in lead testing in all areas for a total of 33 faucets and spigots. Upon the return of the results, there are a series of steps that are required by law including informing all parents, staff and students of the results.

Ashland District School was below the required lead levels in all but one of our faucets. Many of the faucets that are used regularly returned with a level of zero parts per billion (ppb) of lead. One faucet, located in the 3-5 staff work room came back with a level of 28.8 ppb. This is not an area that is used by students and is very rarely used by staff.

Ashland District School has taken steps to mediate this issue that include flushing the pipes and system as well as replacing the aerator mechanism in the faucet. Secondary testing will be completed to ensure that our levels are reduced to a level below the recommended State level. A sign has been placed on the faucet to keep people from drinking the water until such time as the secondary testing shows that it is safe. Further tested levels above the State limit will result in the installation of a filter, if necessary.

Attached with this letter is the actual lab results of each faucet, an informational sheet on the new Lead Testing regulations in the State of Maine, and a health advisory in the case of lead contamination. If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at jhall@sad32.org or at 207-435-3481. Thank you for your time.

Yours in Education,

Joel Hall, Superintendent/Principal

Public Notice: School Lead Water Sample Results

Information concerning the lead level results for drinking water samples taken at Ashland District School

name of school

Maine law requires schools to test all drinking water faucets that could be used for drinking or cooking purposes for the presence of lead. This law further requires that parents and staff are made aware of all of the sample results.

During the period of 03/11/2022 to 03/11/2022
begin date *end date*

Water samples were collected from 33 water fixtures.
locations

Any sites producing elevated levels of lead (exceeding 4 parts per billion, or ppb), and therefore the faucets of most concern, are listed in the table on the following page(s).

Results for all drinking water outlets tested can be viewed here:

www.sad32.org

Enter website address or physical location

Statewide test results for Maine schools can also be found on the Maine DWP website at: www.medwp.com/schools.html

How does lead get into the water? When lead is present in water, it typically leaches, or dissolves, into water flowing through plumbing and fixtures *inside* a building from sources such as solder, pipes, or the faucets themselves. The school's well water or water provided by your local water district are unlikely sources of lead.

What are the Health Effects of exposure to lead in drinking water? Infants and children who drink water containing high levels of lead can experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink water containing excess levels of lead over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

What level of lead is safe? No level of lead is safe. Because of the potential serious health risks, both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) agree that there is no known safe level of lead in a child's blood.

Please be aware that this sampling is done under conditions that are optimal for identifying lead in water. By having the water sit unused for many hours, lead that might be leaching from pipes or fittings is more easily discovered. However, *these levels are likely not the level of lead present in the drinking water throughout the school day.*

What can I do? Here are a few steps you can take to reduce the risk of your child being exposed to lead through school drinking water:

- Provide your child with bottled water or water from your home to reduce their usage of school drinking water outlets. Be sure to sample your home water for lead, too.
- Remind your child to let the water run for 30 seconds before drinking or filling a water bottle at school, which will lower any possible lead concentration.
- Consult your doctor if you have any specific health concerns.

School Fixtures with Elevated Lead Results (exceeding 4 parts per billion)

**Additional tables may be attached if your school has more than 20 collection sites with elevated lead levels.*

	Collection Date	Collection Site	Concentration (ppb)
1	3/11/2022	Room 144 - Teacher Work Room 3-5	28.8ppb
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

What is Being Done:

To correct the problem(s), we have taken these actions:

The faucet has been shut off and marked. The pipes and sink will be flushed regularly. This is a faucet that is not accessible to students and has not been run frequently. Aerator screens will be replaced in the faucet.

Future plans for the reduction of high lead levels in our drinking water include:

All other faucets in the building, a total of 33, came back with negligible or zero parts per billion of lead. With our new school, the pipes and plumbing are new and up to code. A regular flushing of little used faucets in work rooms or remote areas will occur on a monthly basis.

These actions are expected to be completed on:

10/01/2022

(Date)



Information about Lead in Drinking Water for Students, Staff, and Parents



Health Effects of Lead

If too much lead enters your body from drinking water or other sources, serious health problems can occur, including damage to the brain and kidneys and interference with the production of oxygen-carrying red blood cells.

The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women: During pregnancy, the fetus receives lead from the mother, which may affect brain development. In children, the continuing effects of lead on the brain have been linked to lowered IQ. Furthermore, lead is stored in the bones and can be released later in life, so, adults who were exposed to high levels of lead earlier in life may still encounter kidney problems and high blood pressure.

Sources of Lead

Lead can be found in many places; knowing the sources of lead can help limit your contact with it. Although most of the reported cases of lead poisoning in Maine have been a result of lead paint dust, exposure can also occur through drinking and cooking with water that has lead, as it can dissolve into water from solder or brass faucets, fittings, and valves. Exposure to lead can also come from jobs and hobbies that utilize materials containing lead, as well as from things you buy such as toys and antiques.

How Lead Got into Your Water

The most likely source of lead in your water is leaching from lead solder on your pipes or out of brass plumbing materials found in faucets, fittings, and valves.

Steps You Can Take to Protect Yourself from Lead in Drinking Water

- Run the water for at least 30 seconds or until it becomes noticeably colder before using it for drinking or cooking. The longer water sits in piping, the greater the chance that lead might leach in.
- Use cold water for drinking and cooking as well as for preparing baby formula. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water.
- Clean your faucet aerator (screen) regularly.
- Consider using bottled water or a water filter for drinking and cooking.

* Remember: Boiling the water does *not* reduce lead levels.

Find Out More

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>, or contact the Maine Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (866-292-3474) or your health care provider. Your doctor can answer questions about having your child tested for lead.



A & L LABORATORY

A DIVISION OF GRANITE STATE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC.

155 Center Street, Building C, Auburn, Maine 04210
Phone (207) 784-5354 website www.allaboratory.com

Laboratory Report

Ashland District School
PO Box 369
Ashland, ME 04732

Date Printed: 04/22/2022
Work Order #: 2203-02233
Client Job #: 725
Date Received: 03/16/2022
Sample collected in: Maine

Attached please find results for the analysis of the samples received on the date referenced above.

Unless otherwise noted in the attached report, the analyses performed met the requirements of the analyzing laboratory's Quality Assurance Plan, Standard Operating Procedures and State Accreditation. This certificate shall not be reproduced, except in full, without the written approval of the analyzing laboratory. The results presented in this report relate to the samples listed on the following pages in the condition in which they were received. Accreditation for each analyte is identified by the * symbol following the analyte name. Location of our analyzing laboratory is identified by the code in the Analyst Column.

A & L Laboratory:
Identified by ME in Analyst Column
155 Center Street, Auburn, Maine 04210
www.allaboratory.com

Granite State Analytical Services LLC:
Identified by NH in Analyst Column
22 Manchester Road, Derry, NH 03038
www.granitestateanalytical.com

ANALYSIS RELATED NOTES:

- RL: "Reporting limit" means the lowest level of an analyte that can be accurately recovered from the matrix of interest.
- A & L Laboratory / Granite State Analytical Services LLC / Nashoba Analytical LLC. accreditation lists can be found on our websites listed above.
- Subcontracted samples will be identified by the Accreditation number of the subcontract laboratory in the analyst field for each analyte and the appropriate laboratory will be listed here. **None**
- Data Qualifiers (DQ) Flags provide additional information in regards to the receipt, analysis or quality control of a sample. These are indicated under the DQ Flags Column on your report and listed here if necessary: **Data Qualifier (DQ) Flags: None**

SAMPLE STATE SPECIFIC NOTES:

- The thermal preservation requirement of 4°C for nitrate & nitrite has been waived by the Maine CDC for all samples submitted to the Drinking Water Program.

Additional Narrative or Comments: **None**

We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with laboratory services. If you have any questions regarding the enclosed report, please contact the laboratory and we will be happy to assist you.

Rebecca L. Labranche
Laboratory Director



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CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS FOR DRINKING WATER

DATE PRINTED: 04/22/2022
CLIENT NAME: Ashland District School

CLIENT ADDRESS: PO Box 369
Ashland, ME 04732

METHOD: EPA 200.8
EPA ACTION LEVEL: 15 ppb
MAINE GUIDELINE: 4 ppb
REPORTING LIMIT: 1 ppb

Legend	
Lead Above 4 ppb	
Lead Above 15 ppb	

DATE AND TIME RECEIVED: 03/16/2022 09:20AM
ANALYSIS PACKAGE: Maine Schools-Lead
RECEIPT TEMPERATURE: 16° CELSIUS
CLIENT JOB #: 725

Sample ID #	Location	Sample Type	Outlet Type	Date - Time Water Sampled	Result	Test Units	Pass /Fail	DQ Flag	Analyst	Date - Time Analyzed
2203-02233-001	Kitchen 3 bay sink	I	KF	03/11/2022 05:30AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:20AM
2203-02233-002	Kitchen vegetable sink	I	KF	03/11/2022 05:31AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/15/2022 09:39PM
2203-02233-003	Kitchen tilt skillet faucet	I	KF	03/11/2022 05:31AM	1.3	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:29AM
2203-02233-004	Hall by super office	I	DWF	03/11/2022 05:32AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:31AM
2203-02233-005	Gym high school side	I	DWF	03/11/2022 05:32AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:34AM
2203-02233-006	Gym elementary side	I	DWF	03/11/2022 05:33AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:37AM
2203-02233-007	Fitness center	I	DWF	03/11/2022 05:33AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:49AM
2203-02233-008	Nurse's office sink	I	OT	03/11/2022 05:34AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:52AM
2203-02233-009	Room 104	I	DWF	03/11/2022 05:50AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:55AM
2203-02233-010	Room 107	I	DWF	03/11/2022 05:35AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 12:58AM
2203-02233-011	Room 113	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:00AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 01:01AM
2203-02233-012	Room 114	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:01AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 01:04AM
2203-02233-013	Room 116	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:02AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 01:13AM
2203-02233-014	Room 121	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:04AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/15/2022 09:42PM
2203-02233-015	Room 137	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:10AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 01:16AM
2203-02233-016	Room 142	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:13AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:24PM
2203-02233-017	Room 143	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:15AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:27PM
2203-02233-018	Room 144	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:17AM	28.8	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:30PM
2203-02233-019	Room 145	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:20AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:33PM
2203-02233-020	Room 146	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:23AM	1.3	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:36PM
2203-02233-021	PreK-2 Wing Teacher Rm	I	OT	03/11/2022 06:03AM	1.5	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:39PM
2203-02233-022	Music Rm	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:25AM	<1	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:42PM
2203-02233-023	Rm 218	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:30AM	1.9	ppb			DR-NH	04/21/2022 07:45PM
2203-02233-024	Rm 217	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:31AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 06:55PM
2203-02233-025	Rm 210	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:33AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 06:58PM
2203-02233-026	Rm 211	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:35AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:02PM

Rebecca L. Labranche
Laboratory Director



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Lead Above 4 ppb	
Lead Above 15 ppb	

DATE AND TIME RECEIVED: 03/16/2022 09:20AM
ANALYSIS PACKAGE: Maine Schools-Lead
RECEIPT TEMPERATURE: 16° CELSIUS
CLIENT JOB #: 725

Sample ID #	Location	Sample Type	Outlet Type	Date - Time Water Sampled	Result	Test Units	Pass /Fail	DQ Flag	Analyst	Date - Time Analyzed
2203-02233-027	Rm 212	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:37AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:06PM
2203-02233-028	Rm 203	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:40AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:09PM
2203-02233-029	Rm 249	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:41AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:13PM
2203-02233-030	HS hall wing	I	DWF	03/11/2022 06:44AM	1.9	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:16PM
2203-02233-031	HS teacher work rm	I	OT	03/11/2022 06:45AM	1.2	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:20PM
2203-02233-032	Gym ice maker	I	OT	03/11/2022 08:45AM	1.5	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:23PM
2203-02233-033	Kitchen ice maker	I	OT	03/11/2022 05:30AM	<1	ppb			DG-NH	04/21/2022 07:27PM

Rebecca L. Labranche
Laboratory Director