

NV Newark Valley Central Schools

Home of the Cardinals

November 10, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

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, sink, etc.), which may potentially be used for drinking or cooking.

The Newark Valley Central School District has taken this new regulation seriously and contracted with our Health and Safety, 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:

Site	TOTAL # of Potable Water Outlets Tested	# of Outlets Exceeding Acceptable Level
Nathan T. Hall Elementary	75	5
Newark Valley Middle School	23	3
Newark Valley High School	31	2
TOTAL	129	10

Please be assured that both municipal and well sources of water in the District are regularly tested and meet all safety standards. It is equally important to note that only one of the ten fixtures exceeding acceptable limits was a drinking fountain. Possible causes for not meeting the acceptable level may include:

- Older fixtures and piping and/or solder
- Contaminated aerator

School safety is paramount to the mission of the Newark Valley Central School District and we are committed to providing a safe, secure learning environment. A copy of our test results will be available on our website at www.nvcs.stier.org. Should you have questions, please contact the District Office at 607-642-3221 or the Tioga County Health Department at 607-687-8600.

Sincerely,

Ryan Dougherty
Superintendent of Schools

District Office
68 Wilson Creek Road
Newark Valley, NY 13811
Phone: (607) 642-3221
Fax: (607) 642-8821

Newark Valley High School
68 Wilson Creek Road
Newark Valley, NY 13811
Phone: (607) 642-8351
Fax: (607) 642-5292

Newark Valley Middle School
88 Whig Street
Newark Valley, NY 13811
Phone: (607) 642-5524
Fax: (607) 642-8494

Nathan T. Hall Elementary
86 Whig Street
Newark Valley, NY 13811
Phone: (607) 642-3340
Fax: (607) 642-5004