

June 14, 2022

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Director, Real Estate and Facilities  
Uncommon Schools

For distribution

RE: **Lead in Drinking Water Sampling**  
**North Star Academy – Washington Park High School**  
13 Central Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07102  
EL Project # 21-0017

To Whom it May Concern:

North Star Academy Schools are committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect the North Star community and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, North Star Academy retained Environmental Logic, LLC (EL) to test the school's drinking water for lead.

**Results of our Testing**

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, a plumbing profile for each of the buildings within the North Star Academy system was prepared. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. The US Environmental Protection Agency has established a lead in drinking water action level of 15 µg/l [ppb]. On July 24, 2021 and on June 13, 2022, EL collected drinking water samples throughout the aforementioned school.

**No lead concentrations exceeding 15 µg/l [ppb] were identified in drinking water outlets or food preparation sinks.**

Additionally, EL collected samples from water sources that are not designed for drinking following prior lead in drinking water monitoring events.

The table below identifies water outlets that tested above the 15 µg/l for lead. All these faucets are designed for handwashing/showering/building system purposes and do not require remedial action.



Sample Location	Sample ID	Purpose	First Draw Result in µg/l (ppb)	Recommended Action
Second floor shower	C206-2-SH1	Shower	31.4	None
Second floor shower	C206-2-SH2	Shower	51.2	None
Second floor shower	C205-2-SH1	Shower	18.2	None
Second floor shower	C205-2-SH2	Shower	33.3	None
Third floor lab sink	C315A-3-S1	Science Lab	17	None
Third floor lab sink	C315-3-S7	Science Lab	26.8	None
Fourth floor lab sink	R415A-4-S1	Science Lab	15.9	None

During sampling of the first floor water fountains during the July 2021 sampling event, it was determined that the first floor water fountain 1-WFS-1 had been shut off and stagnant for an extended period of time as part of Covid protocols. The sample results from this July 2021 event are therefore not representative of first draw water quality. On June 13, 2022, the first draw sample was recollected from this fountain, and the results were compliant.

#### Health Effects of Lead

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years of age. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At very high levels, lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

#### How Lead Enters our Water

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like groundwater, rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and in building plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass, and chrome-plated brass faucets. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes, and other plumbing materials. However, even the lead in plumbing materials meeting these new requirements is subject to corrosion. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.



### Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

### For More Information

A copy of the test results is available at the school central office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents. The results are also available on the North Star Academy website at <https://northstar.uncommonschoools.org/lead-results/>. For more information about water quality in the North Star Academy schools, contact Beatriz Figueroa, Director, Real Estate and Facilities at [Beatriz.Figueroa@uncommonschoools.org](mailto:Beatriz.Figueroa@uncommonschoools.org).

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead), call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Sincerely,



Michael B. Adams  
Senior Project Manager

Enclosures: Full Analytical Data Table



## Lead in Drinking Water Sample Results

Job Number:		JD28981 and L2231298-01					
Consultant:		Environmental Logic LLC.					
Project:		Uncommon Schools, Newark, NJ					
Project Number:		21-0017					
Address:		13 Central Avenue					
						Legend:	Exceed
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	C106-1-S1	C105-1-S1	1-WFS-1	1-WFT-1	
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-1	JD28981-2	JD28981-3	JD28981-4	
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	
<b>Metals Analysis</b>							
Lead	ug/l	15	<0.50	<0.50	20	1.4	
1-WFS-1 collected 7/24/2021 was stagnant, not first draw. Accurate first draw sample recollected 6/13/2022 and was compliant.							
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	1-WFB-1	C104-1-S1	C104-1-S2	C104-1-S3	
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-5	JD28981-6	JD28981-7	JD28981-8	
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	
<b>Metals Analysis</b>							
Lead	ug/l	15	11	<0.50	1.17	1.37	
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	R101B-1-WC1	2-WFS-1	2-WFT-1	C210-2-S1	
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-9	JD28981-10	JD28981-11	JD28981-12	
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	
<b>Metals Analysis</b>							
Lead	ug/l	15	<0.50	<0.50	0.568	<0.50	
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	C209-2-S1	C209-2-S2	C208-2-S1	C208-2-S2	
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-13	JD28981-14	JD28981-15	JD28981-16	
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	
<b>Metals Analysis</b>							
Lead	ug/l	15	0.978	<0.50	0.839	3.27	
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	C208-2-S3	C206-2-SH1	C206-2-SH2	C205-2-SH1	
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-17	JD28981-18	JD28981-19	JD28981-20	
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	
<b>Metals Analysis</b>							
Lead	ug/l	15	3.08	31.4	51.2	18.2	
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	C205-2-SH2	R201-2-S1	C319-3-S1	C318-3-S1	
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-21	JD28981-22	JD28981-23	JD28981-24	
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	
<b>Metals Analysis</b>							
Lead	ug/l	15	33.3	0.931	<0.50	0.671	
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	3-WFB-1	C317-3-S1	C317-3-S2	C317-3-S3	
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-25	JD28981-26	JD28981-27	JD28981-28	
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	
<b>Metals Analysis</b>							
Lead	ug/l	15	<0.50	<0.50	<0.50	0.513	

Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	C315-3-S1	C315-3-S2	C315A-3-S1	C315-3-S3
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-29	JD28981-30	JD28981-31	JD28981-32
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water
<b>Metals Analysis</b>						
Lead	ug/l	15	1.26	6.07	17	6.77
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	C315-3-S4	C315-3-S5	C315-3-S6	C315-3-S7
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-33	JD28981-34	JD28981-35	JD28981-36
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water
<b>Metals Analysis</b>						
Lead	ug/l	15	1.98	3.75	4.44	26.8
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	4-WFB-1	C419-4-S1	C418-4-S1	C417-4-S1
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-37	JD28981-38	JD28981-39	JD28981-40
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water
<b>Metals Analysis</b>						
Lead	ug/l	15	<0.50	<0.50	0.971	0.647
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	C417-4-S2	C417-4-S3	R415-4-S1	R415-4-S2
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-41	JD28981-42	JD28981-43	JD28981-44
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water
<b>Metals Analysis</b>						
Lead	ug/l	15	0.954	1.66	2.02	1.26
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	R415A-4-S1	R415-4-S4	R415-4-S5	R415-4-S6
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-45	JD28981-46	JD28981-47	JD28981-48
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021	7/24/2021
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water	Drinking Water
<b>Metals Analysis</b>						
Lead	ug/l	15	15.9	3.85	3.62	4.91
Client Sample ID:		NJ Drinking Water Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18)	R415-4-S7	1-WFS-1		
Lab Sample ID:			JD28981-49	L2231298-01		
Date Sampled:			7/24/2021	6/13/2022		
Matrix:			Drinking Water	Drinking Water		
<b>Metals Analysis</b>						
Lead	ug/l	15	2.94	<0.343		
<b>Notes:</b>						
< - Precedes method detection limit, denotes no detection						
8 results exceeded regulatory criteria.						