



Eagle Point School District 9

P.O. Box 548
Eagle Point, OR 97524

Notice to Students, Parents, Guardians and Staff

From the Office of the Superintendent

Important information and test results for lead levels in Eagle Point High School

March 16, 2017

Eagle Point School District began testing drinking and other water sources for lead in June 2016 across all buildings in the district. This was in response to Oregon's Healthy and Safe Schools Act recommendations for lead testing of water systems. The first round of testing began with a sampling of drinking fountains and other sinks from each site. Overall the test results showed little area for concern although there were a few test results with elevated lead levels. These faucets were repaired and replaced last summer, as needed, and retested to ensure that any lead levels were now below the EPA threshold for concern.

The second round of our testing plan was to comprehensively test all drinking fountains and sinks at individual schools. Recent test results at Eagle Point High School showed a large number of sinks with elevated lead levels that require our attention and mitigation. **It is important to note that all drinking fountains school-wide and all sinks in the kitchen/cafeteria have tested well below the EPA threshold.**

The sinks with higher lead levels are primarily the science classroom lab sinks. There were other areas affected but primarily these sinks are considered to be little used. The affected sinks have been immediately labeled 'Do not drink from faucet'. Further, the water to many of these sinks will be shut off until corrective action is taken by the district to bring the lead test result back to acceptable levels. To support learning activities, science teachers will help select sinks left on in these classrooms for cleaning purposes only. They will remain clearly marked 'Do not drink from faucet'.

We understand the concern about the possible health impacts of lead in drinking water. It is important to note that there are many variables that can lead to elevated lead levels in drinking water, including the type and age of water fixtures, the building plumbing in general, and the frequency of use of a particular faucet, among others.

For more information about lead and its health impacts, visit the State of Oregon website at:
<https://public.health.oregon.gov/HealthyEnvironments/HealthyNeighborhoods/LeadPoisoning/Pages/index.aspx>