

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

Safe and healthy school environments can foster healthy and successful children. To protect public health, the Public Health Law and New York State Health Department (NYS DOH) regulations require that all public schools and boards of cooperative educational services (BOCES) test lead levels in water from every outlet that is being used, or could potentially be used, for drinking or cooking. When this testing was last done in 2021, the maximum contamination level was set at 15 parts per billion (ppb). The standards have since become more stringent. If lead is found at any water outlet at levels above 5 ppb, which is equal to 5 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), the NYS DOH requires that the school take action to reduce the exposure to lead.

On October 2, 2025, ECS Mid-Atlantic LLC collected samples from 23 water outlets sources for lead testing at the Sacandaga Elementary School. Those outlets with levels of lead above 5 ppb and their analytical results can be viewed in the table below.

School Sample ID	Sample Location	Outlet Description	Lead Result mcg/L (ppb)
SES-3	Kindergarten Classroom	Sink	6.1
SES-9	Conference Room	Sink	24.4
SES-14	Kitchen	Sink	6.2

Outlets that tested with lead levels above the action level (5 ppb) were posted with signage that the water outlet is not to be used for drinking. The kitchen outlet will be remediated by replacing the faucet and will then be retested. Outlets that tested below the action level remain in service with no restrictions.

Lead is a metal that can harm children and adults when it gets into their bodies. Lead is a known neurotoxin, particularly harmful to the developing brain and nervous system of children under 6 years old. Lead can harm a young child's growth, behavior, and ability to learn. Lead exposure during pregnancy may contribute to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. There are many sources of lead exposure in the environment, and it is important to reduce all lead exposures as much as possible. Water testing helps identify and correct possible sources of lead that contribute to exposure from drinking water.

The risk to an individual child from past exposure to elevated lead in drinking water depends on many factors, including but not limited to, a child's age, weight, amount of water consumed, and the amount of lead in the water. Children may also be exposed to other significant sources of lead including paint, soil, and dust. Since blood lead testing is the only way to determine a child's blood lead level, parents should discuss their child's health history with their child's physician to determine if blood lead testing is appropriate. Pregnant women or women of childbearing age should also consider discussing this matter with their physician.

Additional Resources

For more information regarding the testing program or sampling results, contact Pete Zwack or Dennis Cooper, Supervisors of Buildings and Grounds, at (518) 347-3600, or go to our school website: <https://www.scotiaglenvilleschools.org/>

For information about lead in school drinking water, go to:

https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/lead_testing_of_school_drinking_water.htm

The District takes the well-being of our students and staff very seriously and is taking all the steps necessary to address the situation and confirm the safety of the water throughout the district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Susan M. Swartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" and last name "Swartz" being clearly legible, and "M." as a middle initial.

Susan M. Swartz
Superintendent of Schools