

March 11, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) has retested the lead levels of water outlets at Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School that exceeded maximum state levels last spring. Before retesting, CCPS remediated outlets, which included making repairs or replacing fixtures. Additionally, CCPS staff removed two exterior drinking fountains.

There were 17 lead water samples collected from Mitchell for retesting. Of these samples, eight passed, meaning the retesting levels were less than the action level of 20 parts per billion (ppb) for lead in drinking water in school buildings. CCPS is removing covers from these outlets, which will be available for use by students and staff.

Nine outlets tested higher than 20 ppb, despite repairs. These outlets will be re-evaluated and remain covered until CCPS decides to replace, remove or only use for handwashing.

The elevated lead results from the samples collected at Mitchell were as follows:

1. B110-sink	666 parts per billion (ppb)
2. B110-water fountain	77.3 parts per billion (ppb)
3. B109-sink	116 parts per billion (ppb)
4. B103-sink	27.2 parts per billion (ppb)
5. C110-sink	439 parts per billion (ppb)
6. C109-sink	146 parts per billion (ppb)
7. C107-sink	128 parts per billion (ppb)
8. C107-water fountain	27.6 parts per billion (ppb)
9. C106-water fountain	71.8 parts per billion (ppb)

CCPS will re-evaluate, repair, remove or use the remaining outlets solely for handwashing. Staff will collect a follow-up sample after remediation and will not place any fixture back in service until water level results are at acceptable levels.

I assure you there will be ample access to drinking water, through the 75 outlets without elevated lead levels.

For additional information, contact Michael Heim, assistant superintendent of supporting services, at 301-934-7270 or mheim@ccboe.com. Complete testing results are available at <https://www.ccboe.com/index.php/water-quality-reports-ql>.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Adam
Principal