

Oct. 3, 2016

Dear Poland School Community:

As you may be aware, on Sept. 6, 2016, Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed a new law that requires public schools in New York to test all water outlets currently or potentially used for drinking or cooking purposes for lead levels.

The new law makes New York the first state in the nation to require all of its public schools to conduct lead testing on all sources of potable water.

In accordance with the law, Poland Central School is in the process of conducting water testing at our school building, with the assistance of the Herkimer County BOCES Safety Office and a state-approved laboratory.

In accordance with the new law, if the lead level from a water outlet exceeds the state's action level of 15 parts per billion, the district will take immediate action. The state's regulations require that all such outlets be taken offline until a remediation plan is implemented and further testing indicates that lead levels are below the action level. At that time, the identified outlets will be put back in service. In the meantime, we will ensure that all students and staff have an adequate supply of water for drinking and cooking.

We will notify you of the results of these tests and any additional actions regarding water testing or remediation that may be necessary as we move forward.

Please contact Chad Hess, School Business Manager and Director of Facilities at 315-826-0205 if you have any questions about our water testing.

Sincerely,

Laura M. Dutton  
Superintendent of Schools