



Asotin-Anatone School District #420

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◆ www.aasd.wednet.edu ◆

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Special Serv.	243-4146
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September 28, 2018

Dear Asotin School Community:

In 2017, the Legislature directed the Washington State Department of Health to test for lead in drinking water in public schools in an effort to reduce children's overall exposure to lead in the environment. As part of our commitment to ensuring the health of our students and staff is protected, we recently participated in this program.

What did we learn?

On May 15, 2018, DOH staff sampled 49 fixtures at Asotin Elementary School. This represents every fixture that provides drinking water to students or staff, or is used to prepare food. The testing was done prior to the school day before students were in the building.

Results show that one water sample at Asotin Elementary School had lead levels above the EPA's action level for lead, which is 20 parts per billion (ppb).

What are we doing?

Immediately after being notified of the results, we took the fixture out of service and it will be replaced with a new one.

Why is lead a problem?

Children are exposed to lead from a variety of sources in their environments. Exposure sources include dust from old, deteriorating lead paint, contaminated soil, take-home exposures from parents who work in certain industries, and many others. Each of these sources contribute to the amount of lead in the bodies of children.

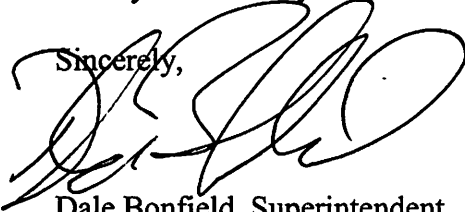
It is important to reduce exposure from every source as much as possible. Children six years old and younger are the most susceptible to the effects of lead. Their growing bodies absorb more lead than adults and their brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead. Even at very low levels of exposure to lead, children may experience effects including lower IQ levels, reduced attention span, hyperactivity, poor classroom performance, or other harmful physical and behavioral effects.

"Balancing A Quality Education With Community Service"

How can I learn more?

Water testing results are available at the district office and on our website at www.aasd.wednet.edu. For more information about water quality in our schools, please contact Dale Bonfield at (509) 243-1100. If you are concerned that your child has been exposed to lead for any reason ask your healthcare provider about having them screened for lead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Bonfield', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Dale Bonfield, Superintendent