

Gouverneur

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Gouverneur Central School District
133 East Barney Street
Gouverneur, NY 13642
315-287-4870

August 25, 2021

Dear Families:

Our district, with the assistance of the Jefferson-Lewis BOCES Health and Safety Office, took samples from drinking water sources such as water bubblers, drinking fountains, and sinks typically used for water consumption. Additionally, such locations as custodial closet sinks, bathroom sinks, and other locations that are not typically used as sources of drinking water were also tested.

The results of the testing revealed lead concentration above the New York State Department of Health requirement of 15 ppb (parts per billion) in several areas of the Gouverneur High School. I received the results on Friday, August 20, at 12:30 p.m. At that time, Mr. Simmons placed non-potable water signage at all outlets that tested above the action level (15 ppb) to the affected areas. Please be assured that all students and staff still have locations for water such as drinking fountains that tested below the limit.

The “on-again, off-again” nature of water use at schools can raise lead levels in school drinking water. Water that remains in pipes overnight, over a weekend, or over vacation periods stays in contact with lead pipes or lead solder and, as a result, could contain higher levels of lead. *It is important to note that this water sample was taken on May 13, 2021, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the water had not been in regular use for an extended period.* All outlets that tested above the action level (15 ppb) will be retested once school is back in session. That will allow for a more regular and continuous use of all outlets.

To view all the results for the Gouverneur High School, please see the enclosed document or visit our web page at www.gcsk12.org.

Please feel free to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


Jacquelyn L. Kelly
Superintendent of Schools