

Beecher Community Unit School District 200U

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Jeffrey R. McCartney
Superintendent of Schools

March 30, 2017

Dear Beecher 200U Residents,

On January 16, 2017, SB 0550 was signed by Governor Bruce Rauner requiring all Pre-K through 5th grade schools to be tested for lead in drinking and cooking water. Schools built after January 1, 2000, and grades 6 through 12 schools are not required to be tested.

Collection of water samples at Beecher Elementary School was completed on March 16, 2017.

We have posted the results of the testing for Beecher Elementary on our website for viewing. You will find the reports of the findings under the Board of Education, Legal info and files tab.

The testing requirements are as follows;

- Readings below 5 parts per billion (PPB) do not require any action.
- Readings above 5 ppb but below 20 ppb require notification to parents of children in the school but are still permitted to be used.
- Readings above 20 ppb require immediate discontinued use of the fixture/fountain.

Of the samples collected...

- One classroom sink/drinking fountain tested above 5 ppb and below 20 ppb.
- One classroom sink/drinking fountain tested above 20 ppb.

Fortunately, these sinks/fountains are not used for drinking, only hand washing. The above listed devices will remain out of operation and capped off until further notice.

Although not required we will be installing a filtered drinking fountain in the Elementary as well as the Junior High and High School for students to fill up water bottles.

The district will update residence in the fall with further information.

You can find information that is more useful at the USEPA website regarding lead in drinking water:

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

Thank you,

Jeffrey McCartney
Superintendent of Schools