



ITHACA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

400 Lake Street, P.O. Box 549, Ithaca, New York 14851-0549

Tel: (607) 274 2101

Fax: (607) 274-2279

E-mail: luvelle.brown@icsd.k12.ny.us

Luvelle Brown, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

January 29, 2019

Dear Caregivers,

Since August 2015, the Ithaca City School District (ICSD) has been working with the Tompkins County Health Department (TCHD), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ensure that students and staff in all buildings have access to safe drinking water.

The ICSD Facilities Department is finalizing the installation of new faucets, piping, and bottle filler/drinking fountains with filters in every elementary school. Results from routine tests have been favorable, indicating that water can be consumed from the new faucets and fountains. Therefore, beginning February 25, 2019 the drinking fountains at most elementary schools will be turned on for consumption. We will also continue to provide bottled water in high volume areas throughout each school building where bottle filler/drinking fountains do not exist. Moving forward, the ICSD Facilities Department will begin installing new faucets and bottle filler/drinking fountains at all secondary schools.

In addition to regular testing at all schools, Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) mandated testing has been performed at Caroline and Enfield elementary schools. The results continue to be well below the action level. However, during the third quarter (2018) testing at Caroline, elevated levels of chloride were indicated. There are no safety concerns associated with elevated levels of chloride. We have notified families about the elevated levels and are working with the TCHD to determine the cause. Water fountains at Caroline will remain off, and bottled water for drinking will be provided. For more information about chloride, visit the EPA's site: <https://goo.gl/CgmwtU>. For more information about LCR and action levels, visit the New York State Health Department's website: <https://goo.gl/BXgoej>.

The ICSD will continue to provide updates on all water testing (lead, copper, chloride) via our school district website at <http://www.ithacacityschools.org/districtpage.cfm?pageid=601>. Results can also be requested in print from the main office of your child's school building.

As always, we appreciate your patience during this process. Please contact me with any questions or concerns at (607) 274-6845.

Sincerely,

Luvelle Brown Ed.D
Superintendent