

POTABLE WATER MEMORANDUM

To: Otselic Valley Board of Education
From: Daniel G. Henner
Re: Otselic Valley Central School District
Determination of Potable and Non-Potable Water Outlets
Date: February 27, 2017

On September 6, 2016, Governor Cuomo signed new legislation requiring the testing of drinking water in New York public schools for lead levels. The new legislation is explained in, “State Department of Health Issues New Regulations to Mandate Lead Testing in New York Schools by October 31; New York is the First State in the Nation to Complete Lead Testing in All School Districts by the End of 2016.” To access this document, please visit the following link:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-signs-landmark-legislation-test-drinking-water-new-york-schools-lead>

The regulations adopted by the N.Y.S. Department of Health require that a public school take samples from all water outlets in each of its buildings to ascertain whether any lead readings in the water exceed the state required “action-levels.” A “water outlet” is defined as a potable water fixture currently or potentially used for drinking or cooking purposes, including, but not limited to, bubblers, drinking fountains, and faucets.

Pursuant to 10 NYCRR Subpart 67-4 (Subpart 67-4) titled *Lead Testing in School Drinking Water*, the Otselic Valley Central School has evaluated and determined that the following outlets are not currently or potentially used for potable water outlets and are used for Educational, Sanitary or Maintenance uses only. These are identified as follows:

- Outside Hose bibs and fixtures for O&M use. (Also takes special tools to operate)
- Basement eye wash and custodial sinks. (not student accessible)
- Men’s locker room showers.
- Women’s lock room showers.
- PE instructor/coaches office showers (not student accessible)
- Science Room Laboratory Table sinks.
- Art Room Table sinks. (does not include individual sinks)
- Chemical wash emergency showers.
- Chemical emergency eye wash stations.
- Special Ed/Learning Center room shower.

It should be noted that under the State’s regulations the water from these outlets could still be used for handwashing and cleaning purposes only.

Guidance to identify these sites was used from memos issued from both the NYS Department of Education and the NYS Department of Health issued to school districts, as well as from the U.S. EPA document “3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools-Revised Technical Guidance”.

To prevent accidental consumption from Non-Potable identified site the district has posted signage that alerts students and staff to avoid drinking the water from these outlets.

In addition, at the beginning of each school year the district will provide awareness training to all students and staff on potable and non-potable sites and lead in water safety.

Finally, the district will maintain strict compliance with staff and students to insure non-consumption of water at the aforementioned sites.