



September 12, 2016

Dear DeKalb County School District family,

The health and safety of all students and staff are, and always will be, our top priorities.

With this in mind, the DeKalb County School District is proactively testing the drinking water for lead in each of our 150 schools, centers, and facilities.

Recent events have brought national attention to water quality issues. Please understand that **we have absolutely no evidence of water quality issues in any school or building.** Still, we want students, staff, and the community to know our water is safe for consumption.

Testing begins on September 20th. Collaborating with the DeKalb County Board of Health and the DeKalb County Government, we will sample:

- All main water meters supplying buildings
- All kitchens
- All water fountains
- Bathroom sinks
- Ice machines
- Water sources in teacher lounges
- Athletic fields

Beginning with the District's oldest elementary schools, we'll sample each location twice to ensure compliance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines for schools. **If any sample indicates a presence of lead at EPA action levels, we'll immediately stop using water from that source, then repair or remove the problem.** We'll provide bottled water, if needed, until any problem is fixed.

You'll receive testing results in letters and on the District website at www.dekalbschoolsga.org/lead-testing. Please visit our website frequently for updates as well as additional information regarding water quality and lead testing. You may also send additional questions to DCSD_Communications@dekalbschoolsga.org.

We look forward to keeping you informed every step of the way as we ensure the health and safety of our students and staff.

Sincerely,

Dr. R. Stephen Green
Superintendent
DeKalb County School District

S. Elizabeth Ford, M.D.
District Health Director,
DeKalb County Board of Health

Lee May
Interim Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County Government