



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jerilynne Fierstein, Public Information at 376-8092
jfierstein@yonkerspublicschools.org

**Yonkers Board of Education and the City of Yonkers
Training, Testing, Telling Drinking Water in Schools**

(YONKERS, NY) The City of Yonkers water supply and infrastructure at its schools provide for clean and safe water to drink. In light of recent water quality issues in other school districts and urban areas where aging infrastructure is a general concern, Yonkers Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin M. Quezada and Mayor Mike Spano initiated a proactive process in March to have all water outlets for drinking and food preparation used by students, faculty and staff sampled and tested for lead.

Aligned with the Environmental Protection Agency's 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools – Training, Testing, Telling – the following was implemented by the Board of Education (BOE) and City of Yonkers (COY).

- Training – March 24 all head custodial were trained to perform the sampling for the water testing process, and the immediate implementation of daily protocols to flush all water outlets. Training was done by COY Water Laboratory and BOE consultant E&R Engineering who will assist throughout the process.
- Testing – The sampling and testing schedule was developed by YPS School Facilities Management Department in collaboration with the COY Department of Public Works. The process began the week of March 28 and will continue for several months until all schools are completed.
- Immediate Action - Any test results that reveal “actionable” levels of lead (20 ppb) will be immediately disabled and removed or replaced.
- Telling – When testing is completed at a school a letter will be sent home with students indicating the results and the report(s) will be available at the school for review. Resource information is available on the District website: [Drinking Water Safety in Schools](#). Families that may have questions can contact the BOE's School Facilities Management Department at 376-8008.

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