

May 4, 2016

Dear DC Prep Families,

In the wake of the tragic public health water crisis facing Flint, Michigan, all DCPS and public charter schools are conducting lead testing this year at facilities citywide. DC Prep is no exception; recently we partnered with Microbac Laboratories to conduct a thorough and rigorous test of all water sources at our five campuses.

**Results from DC Prep testing are as follows:**

- 1. Edgewood Elementary Campus/Home Office (EEC):**
  - All sources of water are clear.
- 2. Edgewood Middle Campus (EMC):**
  - All sources of water are clear.
- 3. Anacostia Elementary Campus (AEC):**
  - All sources of water are clear.
- 4. Benning Elementary Campus (BEC):**
  - All sources of on-site drinking water did not test positive for harmful levels of lead. However, we were notified that two non-drinking water sources tested positive for elevated lead levels – (a) a faucet in a janitorial closet and (b) one on-site bathroom faucet. As no lead was found in the drinking water on-site at BEC, we have no reason to believe any Preppies or staff were put at risk.
- 5. Benning Middle Campus (BMC):**
  - Results for this campus are still being processed and we expect to receive them next week, at which time we will notify Benning Middle families and staff. However, given that Benning Middle was constructed from the ground up two years ago with new plumbing, we anticipate all water sources will be free of lead.

At BEC, DC Prep's Operations Team immediately disabled the two water sources with unsuitably high levels of lead, and are now actively working to remediate the issue in a swift, thorough, and safe manner.

Below, please find background about the water testing process conducted at DC Prep as well as other schools in Washington, as well as external resources where you can find additional information:

*When water is tested at a school, water samples are collected from every water source in the building, which are then delivered to a lab for analysis. The Certified Drinking Water Sampler enters the buildings very early in the morning to ensure that the water system has not been used for at least six hours prior to testing.*

*The lab follows the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) guidelines to determine if there is an actionable amount of lead in drinking water. If a high level of lead, steps are taken immediately to prevent*

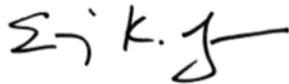
*students and staff from drinking the water. The issue is then fixed as quickly as possible, which can include installing filters or replacing equipment. Afterward, additional water samples are tested to confirm that the fixes put in place were successful, before reopening the water source.*

*You can learn more about the national standards for water safety at schools on the EPA's website: <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/lead-drinking-water-schools-and-child-care-facilities>.*

*Additionally, the Washington Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) provides many services to District residents. Please see this letter from WASA's General Manager to learn more: <https://www.dcwater.com/lead/LetterToCustomers.cfm>.*

As you are well aware, we take the safety of our students, faculty, staff, and families very seriously. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Dan Englender ([denglender@dcprep.org](mailto:denglender@dcprep.org) or 202-635-4590 x249). As always, thank you for entrusting us with the safety and education of your children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. K. J." with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Emily Lawson  
Founder and CEO, DC Prep