



UPDATE ON BPS WATER ACCESS POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

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Presentation to Boston School Committee
September 7, 2016

Agenda

- Timeline
- Water quality test results
- Action steps
- Communications
- Next Steps



Timeline

- June 8th: BPS Water Access Policy passed
- June 27th - July 29th: Water sampling conducted in all schools
- July 21st: BWSC started replacing water meters with lead free meters
- August 4th: Met with DEP, EPA, BPHC, BWSC and others regarding BPS' Filter Implementation & Maintenance plan
- August 16th: Communications to families regarding summer water quality results; presentation to school leaders
- August 30th: DEP meeting on water testing program
- August 31st: Training for Food Service managers
- September 8th: Water Committee meeting



Water Quality Results, as of September 2016

BPS hired a 3rd party environmental engineering firm, EnviroTrac, to test all active fixtures used for drinking, medical purposes, and food preparation (sinks, steamers, icemakers, coffee makers, kettles).

RESULTS

- Out of **756 water samples taken over the summer**, 93 were above 15ppb (12%), representing 58 schools
- **7 schools** in 6 buildings had **at least one fountain** with lead levels above 15ppb; all fountains in these schools were turned off
 - Winship, Quincy ES, Lyndon, BLS, Lee Academy, and Burke/Dearborn
 - 17 fountains in these 6 buildings had elevated levels; 3 schools had only one fountain with an elevated level (Lee, Lyndon, Winship)
- **9 school bldgs.** had at least one **food service** tap with elevated lead levels
 - Fenway HS, Hyde Park HS, Tynan, South Boston Ed Complex, Rogers (closed), Agassiz, Lee School, Charlestown HS, English HS
- **45 schools** had at least one **nurse's office sink** with elevated lead levels

Current Status of Online/Offline Fountains

Fountain Status	Timing of Offline Status	# of Bldgs	Next Steps
Offline:	Prior to 2016 testing	92	Remain offline; will continue using bottled water
	Winter 2015-2016 (pilot projects)	6	<i>These schools have been switched to bottled water. BPS is pursuing adding filters to the fountains in these and other offline schools while retesting as well.</i>
	April/May 2016	4	
	July 2016	6	
Online:		24	Annual testing



The following list shows the 16 schools which have been part of the pilot project or were deactivated since last winter. A full list of all online and offline schools is in the appendix.

- Pilot schools: Boston Green Academy, Curley*, Lee School, Mather, Trotter
- April/May deactivations: Boston Latin Academy, Hernandez, Kenny, Murphy
- July deactivations: Boston Latin School, Burke/Dearborn, Lee Academy, Lyndon, Quincy Elementary, Winship

* The Curley School includes 2 buildings.

Action Steps: Active Fountains, Health Offices, and Food Service Areas

ACTIVE WATER FOUNTAINS

1. Implementing a fountain flushing program
 - Daily flush at each fountain in accordance with DEP standards and national best practices
 - Custodians record actions and any change of condition of fountains on Flushing Log. Area Managers sign off on logs on a monthly basis.
Recommendation: Principals/Headmasters to sign off on flushing logs on a monthly basis as well.

HEALTH OFFICES

1. Signs hung at all sinks, including nurse's sinks: "For hand washing only"
2. Bottled water and cups provided to all nurse's offices and health centers

FOOD SERVICE

1. Signs hung at all sinks: "For hand washing only"
2. Continue a two-minute cold water flush every morning
3. Install point of use lead filters on applicable food service equipment

Action Steps: Offline and Pilot Fountains

- Trial implementation of filter replacement kits and new filtered fountains planned for Boston Green Academy and Lee school
 - Demonstrate that filters work by testing these sites before turning on
- Install point of use lead filters (pending approval from DEP) in all locations where lead levels are still high
- Implement rigorous testing schedule, beginning with the schools which were most recently turned off
- Draw 3 consecutive tests and if all samples are below 15ppb, turn schools “online” and promote tap water consumption



Communications

- BPS Facilities was notified by the laboratory as soon as elevated water samples were found
- In these cases, BPS Facilities notified school leaders immediately and communicated action steps
 - e.g., in cases where an elevated level was found at a water fountain, BPS Facilities informed principals that all fountains would be shut off and the school would be switching to bottled water
- BPS Facilities presented to school leaders during August Leadership Institute
- Superintendent memo, in English and Spanish, and phone call were sent to the BPS community regarding water quality test results
- BPS website was updated with recent test results
- Detailed letters to be sent to impacted schools regarding test results and next steps; conducted site visits as well
- Ongoing: Notify school leaders of future testing and filter installations

Next Steps

- Develop a communication, education, and promotion program about water quality and water consumption
- Implement routine cleaning and maintenance procedures for drinking water infrastructure in online and offline schools
- Finalize a district water access strategic plan
- Integrate water infrastructure improvements into routine renovations and annual capital planning process
- Incorporate water infrastructure goals and cost estimates in Facilities Master Plan
- Work with community partner organizations to conduct regular research on status of water access and impacts of educational programs

Any questions?

Online Schools (24) – Tap Water

- Alighieri
- BAA
- BCLA & New Mission
- BINCA
- Conley
- East Boston EEC
- Ellis
- Ellison Parks EEC
- Fenway
- Haley
- Haynes EEC
- Kennedy Academy Health Careers
- Kilmer Upper & Kilmer Lower
- King
- Lilla Frederick
- Manning
- Mildred Ave
- Orchard Gardens
- Roosevelt Lower & Roosevelt Upper
- UP Academy, Holland
- Stone (leased)
- Dickerman (leased)

Offline Schools (108) – Bottled Water

- Adams
- Baldwin
- BATA
- Bates
- Beethoven
- Blackstone
- Boston Day & Evening Academy
- **Boston Green Academy****
- **Boston Latin Academy ***
- **Boston Latin School***
- Boston Teachers Union School
- Bradley
- Brighton High
- Carter
- CASH & Dorchester Academy
- Channing
- Charlestown High
- Chittick
- Clap
- Community Academy
- Condon
- **Curley (James & Mary)****
- **Dearborn & Burke***
- Dever
- East Boston High
- Edison
- Edwards
- Eliot Upper School
- Emerson
- Endicott/ Bridge Boston (leased)
- English High
- Everett
- Gardner
- Greater Egleston
- E Greenwood
- S Greenwood
- Grew
- Guild
- Hale
- Hamilton (leased)
- Harvard Kent
- Hayes School of Music
- Health Careers Academy at Northeastern
- Henderson Inclusion Lower
- Henderson Inclusion Upper & Dorchester Academy
- Hennigan
- **Hernández***
- Higginson
- Higginson Lewis K-8 School
- Holmes

*School fountains turned off in the last year

**Water Fountain Pilot site

Offline Schools (108) Continued – Bottled Water

- Hurley
- Irving
- Jackson & Horace Mann
- Eliot Elementary
- Josiah Quincy Upper School
- PJ Kennedy
- **Kenny***
- **Lee Academy***
- **Lee Elementary****
- **Lyndon School***
- Lyon Lower & Upper
- Madison Park
- Margarita Muñiz Academy & Mission Hill K-8
- Mason
- **Mather****
- Mattahunt
- McCormack
- McKay
- McKinley
- Ellis
- Mozart
- **Murphy***
- O'Bryant School
- O'Donnell
- Ohrenberger
- Otis
- Perkins
- Perry
- Philbrick
- **Quincy Elementary***
- Quincy Upper Modulars
- Rogers
- Russell
- Shaw
- Snowden
- South Boston Complex
- Sumner
- Taylor
- Tech-Boston Academy
- Timilty
- Tobin
- **Trotter****
- Tynan
- Umana Academy
- UP Academy, Boston
- UP Academy, Marshall
- Warren Prescott
- West Roxbury Complex
- **Winship***
- Winthrop
- Young Achievers

*School fountains turned off in the last year

**Water Fountain Pilot Site