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August 21, 2024

Kamal Johnson
Senior Manager
Facilities Management Team
Uncommon Schools
100 Church Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

For distribution

RE: **Lead in Drinking Water Sampling**
Camden Prep Copewood Elementary and Middle School
1650 Copewood Street
Camden, NJ 08103

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Uncommon Schools is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect the students and staff of the Camden Prep Copewood Elementary and Middle School and be in compliance with the Department of Education regulations, Uncommon Schools retained Environmental Logic, LLC (EL) to test the school's drinking water for lead.

Results of our Testing

Following instructions given in technical guidance developed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, a plumbing profile for the Camden Prep Copewood Elementary and Middle School building was prepared. Through this effort, we identified and tested all drinking water and food preparation outlets. The US Environmental Protection Agency has established a lead in drinking water action level of 15 µg/l [ppb]. On July 11, 2024, EL collected drinking water samples throughout the school.

No lead concentrations exceeding 15 µg/l [ppb] were identified in drinking water outlets or food preparation sinks.

Health Effects of Lead

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years of age. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At *very* high levels, lead can even cause brain damage. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

How Lead Enters our Water

Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like groundwater, rivers, and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and in building plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass, and chrome-plated brass faucets. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials. However, even the lead in plumbing materials meeting these new requirements is subject to corrosion. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning *may* contain fairly high levels of lead.

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of children under the age of 6. EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20% or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

For More Information

A copy of the test results is available at the Camden Prep Copewood Elementary and Middle School Main Office for inspection by the public, including students, teachers, other school personnel, and parents. The results are also available on the Uncommon Schools website at https://www.uncommonschools.org. For more information about water quality at the Camden Prep Copewood Elementary and Middle School, Kamal Johnson, Senior Manager, Facilities Management Team for Uncommon Schools at Kamal.Johnson@uncommonschools.org.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at **www.epa.gov/lead**, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider.

If you are concerned about lead exposure at this facility or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine levels of lead in their blood.

Sincerely,

Chris Esposito, LSRP
Vice President

Enclosures: Full Analytical Data Table

Table 1

Camden Prep Copewood Elementary and Middle School
1650 Copewood Street
Camden, NJ 08103

Lead in Drinking Water Sampling Results

Sample ID: Lab ID: Date Sampled: Analyte	NJ Drinking Water Quality Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18) (µg/L)	1F-TEACHRM-SINK 24G0968-01 7/11/2024	1F-HALL-H 24G0968-02 7/11/2024	1F-HALL-L 24G0968-03 7/11/2024	1F-HALL-B 24G0968-04 7/11/2024	1F-MPR-H 24G0968-05 7/11/2024	1F-MPR-L 24G0968-06 7/11/2024	1F-MPR-B 24G0968-07 7/11/2024	1F-SERV-SINK 24G0968-08 7/11/2024	1F-GYM-H 24G0968-09 7/11/2024	1F-GYM-L 24G0968-10 7/11/2024	1F-GYM-B 24G0968-11 7/11/2024
Lead	15	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	4.26	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0

RL - Reporting Limit
µg/L - Microgram Per Liter
<2.0 - Indicates no detection above the RL

Sample ID: Lab ID: Date Sampled: Analyte	NJ Drinking Water Quality Standards (NJAC 7:10 9/18) (µg/L)	2F-WFN217-H 24G0968-12 7/11/2024	2F-WFN217-L 24G0968-13 7/11/2024	2F-WFN217-B 24G0968-14 7/11/2024	2F-WFN235-H 24G0968-15 7/11/2024	2F-WFN235-L 24G0968-16 7/11/2024	2F-WFN235-B 24G0968-17 7/11/2024	2F-TEACH-SINK 24G0968-18 7/11/2024	3F-WFN311-H 24G0968-19 7/11/2024	3F-WFN311-L 24G0968-20 7/11/2024	3F-WFN311-B 24G0968-21 7/11/2024
Lead	15	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0

RL - Reporting Limit
µg/L - Microgram Per Liter
<2.0 - Indicates no detection above the RL

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