

East Greenbush Central School District

Administration Center

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Jeffrey P. Simons

Superintendent of Schools

June 17, 2025

Dear EGCSD Community,

I am writing to you today to provide an important update regarding the water quality within our school buildings. As part of our ongoing commitment to the health and safety of our students and staff, and in accordance with New York State law, we recently conducted comprehensive testing for lead in our school district's drinking water.

The testing was conducted by Pace Labs in Albany and followed all guidelines set forth by the NYS Department of Health. Samples were collected from various water sources throughout our facilities, including drinking fountains, classroom sinks, bathroom sinks, and kitchens.

Lab results are available for all elementary schools and Howard L. Goff Middle School. (We expect to receive results for Columbia High School at any time.)

According to state law, lab reports for each school must be submitted to the NYS Department of Health, posted on the school website, and sent to all staff and parents/guardians.

School districts began testing for lead contamination in 2016. In 2022, the law was revised and the threshold was reduced from 15 parts per billion to 5 parts per billion and the testing period was changed to every three years.

Of the 421 outlets for which we have results, 30 were above the New York State Department of Health's threshold of 5 parts per billion of lead in water. The majority of those outlets were faucets in bathroom and classroom sinks.

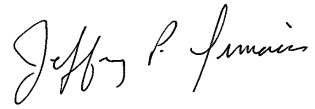
Only three outlets above the state threshold were for drinking fountains in schools and each of those results were under the old threshold of 15 parts per billion.

Any outlets above 5 parts per billion of lead will be remediated and resampled. Remediation efforts include running the water from affected outlets to flush the system, replacement of fixtures, filters and in some cases piping, installation of bottle fillers, and other renovations as needed. All traditional water fountains that remain in schools will be replaced with new bottle filler stations in the current capital project.

As with all health and safety topics, regular testing, evaluation, and corrective measures is necessary. I want to thank our Facilities Department and the Questar III BOCES Health and Safety team for their support in this important initiative.

If you have any questions, please contact our Facilities Department at facilities@egcsd.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey P. Simons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey Simons

Superintendent of Schools

Resources:

- [2025 Water Quality Testing Lab Reports](#)
- [Lead Testing of School Drinking Water](#) (NYS Department of Health)