



**ORCHARD VIEW SCHOOLS**  
35 S. SHERIDAN DRIVE MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN 49442  
[www.orchardview.org](http://www.orchardview.org)

Dear Parents/Guardians, and Staff,

January 18, 2023

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) are encouraging all schools and childcare facilities to reduce children's exposure to lead from school drinking water. Orchard View is committed to protecting student and staff health and has initiated a voluntary healthy drinking water program. As a result of this commitment, all schools had drinking fountains and taps tested in late December by an independent sampling agency. We recently received results and want to share our next steps with you.

Following Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) guidelines, we immediately disabled all fountains and faucets with lead results greater than 5 parts per billion (ppb) to ensure a safe, healthy environment for learning.

Moving forward, we are committed to:

1. Keeping you updated as information as it becomes available to us.
2. Taking immediate steps to eliminate any potential risk of lead in our school drinking water.

At this time, the majority of our faucets and fixtures are certified safe by an independent sampling agency. However, there are a few faucets and fixtures across the High School, Middle School, Cardinal Elementary and Community Education with results greater than 5 parts per billion (ppb). These fixtures have already been taken out of service until appropriate corrective actions can be made. Our next steps will be made based on the severity of the results, and resources available.

These next steps might include one or more of the following: replacement of taps, pipe replacement or reconfiguration, filters, flushing, etc. After corrective actions have been made, an independent sampling agency will retest the problem taps to ensure the levels are safe for consumption. Routine water protocols and future routine sampling will also be implemented for overall water quality.

We are committed to keeping you informed every step of the way as we implement this healthy drinking water program at our schools.

Sincerely,

Jim Nielsen

Superintendent, Orchard View Schools