



May 17, 2018

Dear Birney community,

As you know, the San Diego Unified School District has been conducting extensive testing of drinking water for elevated levels of lead. Last year all drinking water outlets at Birney Elementary were sampled, several of which required remediation in order to meet the district's stringent lead standard of 5 parts per billion (5 ppb). During that time, the district committed to sharing any new information with stakeholders and to conduct ongoing quality assurance sampling.

District staff recently visited our campus again to conduct annual quality control sampling of drinking water fixtures where previously elevated levels of lead were identified and remediated through the installation of a lead certified point-of-use filters – yes, it's been 1 year. These tests were conducted as a precaution to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of point-of-use filters. While **none** of the drinking water samples produced results above the federal action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb), **four** samples produced results that exceed the district's new standard of 5 ppb.

The district has initiated an investigation to determine the cause of these elevated levels and has secured those drinking water outlets so that students will not be able to drink from them. The rooms are:

- Room 303, also known as the Spanish room and shared by the SAY program
- Room 212, also known as the computer lab/learning center and shared by after-school programs
- Room 214, 2nd grade Ms. Dubbs' class
- Room B17, 3rd grade, Ms. Bystrak's class

As part of the district's investigation, staff will be contacting the water filter vendor and the agency that certified the water filters. In the meantime, water dispensers will be provided in the rooms for student access to water, effective Monday, May 21.

As always, the school and the district are committed to keeping all stakeholders apprised of any more developments and will share new information as it becomes available. In the meantime, if you have any questions please contact me, Ms. Amanda, at ahammondwilliams@sandi.net or Samer Naji, Facilities Communications Supervisor, at snaji@sandi.net.

Sincerely,

Ms. Amanda
Principal

