January 12, 2017

Dear Parents, Guardians and District Employees:

On September 6, 2016, Governor Cuomo signed new legislation requiring the testing of drinking water in New York Schools for lead levels. The new legislation is explained in “State Department of Health Issues New Regulations to Mandate Lead Testing in New York Schools by October 31. To access this document please visit the following link:


As a result of this legislation, we contacted the Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES Safety Office and requested testing of all water fixtures for lead. The Safety Office is providing a full, comprehensive report of the sampling program, which includes a building survey of source locations, sampling, reporting, and follow-up assistance. There were 47 water fixtures (drinking fountains, sinks, mop sinks, etc.) tested in the Elementary Building and 83 water fixtures (drinking fountains, sinks, mop sinks, etc.) tested in the High School. We had 2 sources at the Elementary Building and 26 at the High School that showed lead levels at or above the allowable 15 ppb (parts per billion).

Elementary Building – 2 Custodial Sinks

High School Building - 17 science room sinks, 5 classroom sinks, 2 custodial sinks, and 2 kitchen sinks

(No drinking fountains tested were over the allowable limit)

We have remediated the problem areas by temporarily posting signage that alerts students and staff to avoid drinking the water from these sinks. We will be replacing those identified classroom and kitchen fixtures in one of our upcoming projects. The custodial sinks are for maintenance purposes only and will not be accessible to students and the science room sinks are for lab instruction only.

You can review a copy of all water testing results on our website at www.remsencsd.org or by contacting Interim Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jeffrey Bryant at jbryant@remsencsd.org. You may also contact Mr. Thomas Waldron for more information about water quality in our schools at twaldron@remsencsd.org For information about water quality and sampling for lead in your home, contact your local water supplier or visit www.leadfreemv.org.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeffrey K. Bryant, Interim Superintendent
Remsen Central School District