



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL  
218 EAST MERRIMACK STREET



December 19, 2022

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff:

Recently I applied for a grant to obtain a new water bottle filling station for the upstairs classrooms. As part of the grant process, the MassDEP-UMASS came to conduct lead testing of our water throughout the building. Samples of water from every tap at our school that could be used for drinking or cooking were collected and sent to the Mass DEP-UMASS Expanded Assistance Program (EAP).

The water bubblers on the second floor have been shutoff since our last lead testing in 2016, which found high levels of lead in those bubblers. At the time, I was told to flush the bubblers out and that the students could still use them, however, out of an abundance of caution, I decided to shut them off for good. Those bubblers were turned back on for this testing and, again, showed unacceptable lead levels and will remain turned off.

The other results for our school were as follows:

- All the taps sampled for our kitchen area for cooking are non-detectable for any type of lead ppb's.
- We found that several of the bathroom sinks had some lead ppb's but these are not used for drinking at all and are only used for hand washing. When they were flushed for 30 seconds they are non-detectable for any lead. Though these sinks are not used for drinking, we will mark these sinks as handwashing only and also meet with the plumber to see if we need to replace faucets.

We also tested our new water bottle filling stations which are filtered and these are also non-detectable for any lead.

You can view our school results on line at [the MassDEP website](#) or feel free to contact me and I will be glad to sit down and review the results with you.

Please know that Father Sannella and I always have the health and safety of our students and staff as our primary concern. The testing and results have provided us with information that will enable us to continue to focus on that priority. I will keep you advised as we work with our plumber to improve our facility and the conveniences we provide.

If you have questions or concerns about the actions we are taking or these testing results, please reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Catherine Fiorino, Principal