

SPENCER, KEVIN

From: Central Bucks School District <donotreply@cbsd.org>
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2024 3:30 PM
To: SPENCER, KEVIN
Subject: Update on Water Supplied to CB East



Dear Central Bucks East High School Community,

I hope this message finds you well. You may recall [an email](#) from March 6 about the results of tests conducted on the well water that supplies water to CB East. The testing was done in response to new regulations for drinking water established by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in Fall 2023. The regulations set new maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) -- chemicals in the PFAS family. The March 6 email shared that the results of the test of the CB East well water indicated slightly elevated readings of PFOA.

To ensure water quality meets or exceeds DEP standards, the district regularly samples water at its five well-supplied schools (CB East, Holicong Middle School, Tohickon Middle School, Gayman Elementary School, and Groveland Elementary School). For at least the past 10 years, before the new regulations, the water supplied to CB East – and the other four schools – met all DEP requirements. The wells that supply water to the other four schools were also tested under the new regulations, and the results were below the newly established levels.

When the test results were received for the CB East well, DEP advised the district that there was no immediate hazard to the school's drinking or cooking water. DEP also shared that there was no current requirement to replace the water source and that a notification to the community about the results was not required until all four quarters of sampling were completed. (There are two more quarters of sampling left.) In an abundance of caution and to ensure the CB East community was informed, the district sent the March 6 message.

The district was prepared for the possibility of levels above the new limits. Before the new regulations required water sampling in early 2024, our Operations team started investigating filters and other solutions to enact depending on the test results. As such, the district was able to quickly acquire and install filters at 30 locations in CB East, including water fountains, water bottle filling stations, coffee machines, sinks and ice machines, the athletic training office, and stadium concessions. Before the

filters' installation on March 10 and 12, bottled water was provided to all students and staff.

After the filters were installed, the district tested the water coming from the filtered sources within CB East and confirmed a large decrease in PFOA readings, from 23.25 parts per trillion to less than two parts per trillion. The new MCL limit is 14 parts per trillion. Previously, the health advisory level was 70 parts per trillion, and schools were not required to test for these compounds.

We will continue to monitor the water supplied to our five schools via wells, including through additional testing over the next two quarters as required by DEP. We will keep you informed should there be any updates to share.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we work together to keep our students and school environment safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Yanni
Central Bucks School District

Kevin Spencer
Director of Operations

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