

Resolution To Lower Lead in MCPS Drinking Water

Whereas, The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has stated that child lead exposure can affect nearly every system in the body and no amount of lead exposure is safe for children; and

Whereas, The EPA has set the maximum contaminant level goal for lead in drinking water at zero and The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends an action level of 1 part per billion (ppb) for school drinking water.

Whereas, The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has set the lead level limit to 5 ppb for bottled water and a neighboring jurisdiction, Washington DC also set the limit in school water to 5 ppb; and

Whereas, Montgomery County Schools (MCPS) have tested the drinking water and the tests show that over 75% of our schools have at least one outlet over 5 ppb; and

Whereas, Children drinking this water could experience adverse health effects, including cognitive and behavioral effects that endanger their ability to learn, and therefore be it

Resolved, That Montgomery County Council of PTA's (MCCPTA) request that MCPS reduce its action level to a lead level of 5 ppb in drinking water, and be it further

Resolved, That MCCPTA requests that MCPS not obtain a waiver for testing school water in the future even if the State of Maryland regulations allows for a waiver, unless testing shows sustained levels of lead for each outlet are below 5 ppb and further

Resolved, That MCCPTA request that MCPS should work with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services to inform parents on what actions they can take if their children may have been exposed to high levels of lead in their classroom or school as well as in their home environments, and further

Resolved, That MCCPTA request that MCPS should provide fresh drinking water that has less than 5 ppb lead, and finally

Resolved, That MCPS continue to provide test results for each outlet and remediation plans to parents within thirty days by electronic and non-electronic notices in multiple languages.