

July 26, 2021

Dear Principals, Teachers, Employees, Parents, and Caregivers,

The safety and well-being of our Atlanta Public Schools (APS) students and employees is paramount. As such, APS has initiated water quality testing in 109 properties that includes schools, stadiums, and administrative facilities. The district previously performed water quality testing in 2016, as a part of our proactive precautionary measure to ensure that our drinking water is safe for students and employees.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not require these tests. However, APS is committed to conducting tests to the EPA's strict standards every five years and has hired private environmental firms to begin federal standards testing for lead and copper. Testing is scheduled to be completed prior to the start of the new school year (2021-2022).

Presently, APS has no reason to believe the water that enters its buildings has any unsafe levels of lead or copper. If there are any elevated levels of lead or copper found in its buildings, APS will implement a plan to provide safe water immediately and to remediate any contamination. We will share the results of the testing with the community once it is concluded.

You may learn more about the district's water quality testing process on our webpage at <u>https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/49677 or</u> or contact Markeshia Parris, Project Manager, APS Energy, and Environmental Services at 404-802-3720 or <u>markeshia.parris@atlanta.k12.ga.us</u> Thank you.

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