Given our desire to remain ever vigilant in ensuring the safety of our students and staff, and as a proactive measure, the Westbury School District requested that the water in our schools be tested for lead levels. To that end, Enviroscience Consultants, Inc., an environmental consulting firm, was contracted to conduct the testing. Last week, we received a preliminary report that revealed that water from certain fixtures (sinks and fountains) showed lead levels in the water that exceed Environmental Protection Agency standards. We immediately shut off the water at all affected fixtures and developed a plan to further test the water and begin the replacement of necessary fixtures. The second set of test results were received last Friday afternoon. Please know that given the fact that lead was found in a limited number of areas, Enviroscience has indicated that the source of the lead is likely the fixtures themselves and not the water supply.

Again, given the voluntary testing enacted by the District, all affected drinking fountains and sinks were immediately shut off. Please also be aware that there are a number of drinking fountains in all schools where lead levels are well within the EPA standards and where students can easily drink from and fill water bottles.

The safety of our children and staff is of utmost concern, and we immediately took action upon learning of the lead levels, including immediately shutting off all affected water systems and ordering additional testing in affected sinks and fountains to identify the source of the lead. We will replace any fixtures and/or fountains and pipes, if needed, to rectify this situation.

All testing results will be published once the testing is completed.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Lagnado, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools