



# Kent County Public Schools

*Growing a Community of Leaders*

February 20, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, and Staff,

On February 1, 2025, **GALENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** conducted sampling for lead in drinking water. While the major source of lead exposure in most children is paint, lead in plumbing fixtures can add to a person's overall exposure. Drinking water in schools and homes may contain lead from old lead pipes, plumbing fixtures (e.g. fountains and faucets), or solder that joins pipe sections together. A school designee sampled **14** taps that are commonly used for drinking and cooking and sent them to a certified drinking water laboratory for analysis.

**2** of the taps sampled had results at or above 5 parts per billion (ppb) for lead in school drinking water. These taps were located in the Teacher's Lounge and were not accessible to children. **14 total samples were tested, 2 requiring action based on our school testing plan.**

Kent County Public Schools has taken the following steps to reduce lead exposure to students/staff:

- The school principal was informed of all levels.
- A flush sample was taken before the outlets were removed, and samples have been sent out for further testing by the State Water Testing Facility.
- **The 2 affected faucets have been completely removed from the room.**

Our school is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. If you have questions about a lead sample result at a specific tap and actions taken, or if you have concerns, please contact Joseph Wheeler at 410-778-7117 or [jwheeler@kent.k12.md.us](mailto:jwheeler@kent.k12.md.us)

Sincerely,

Joseph Wheeler