



HOWARD LAKE • WAVERLY • WINSTED

BRAD SELLNER, SUPERINTENDENT

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March 12, 2021

Dear HLWW Parents & Guardians,

On Wednesday, March 10, 2021, we were notified by city officials of an issue with manganese levels in the water in Waverly. You can check out the report on testing done by the City of Waverly on their website or by following this link:

[https://www.waverlymn.org/vertical/Sites/%7BE1A48622-C403-4395-8B80-742ED93D6982%7D/uploads/manganese resident final.pdf](https://www.waverlymn.org/vertical/Sites/%7BE1A48622-C403-4395-8B80-742ED93D6982%7D/uploads/manganese%20resident%20final.pdf)

For years now we have been testing for lead in all of our schools' water, as per guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health. Any levels of lead that were found to be too high, were mitigated by replacing fixtures several years ago. We also added filtered drinking fountains and water bottle fillers with filters, to not only proactively address any potential lead issues, but to also improve the overall drinking water.

In terms of this latest issue with manganese, the District is working with city officials and also our health and safety coordinator through Resource Training and Solutions in St. Cloud. As we learn more about what this all means, please know that we already have the following processes and procedures in place in all our school buildings:

- 1) All water in the buildings is softened with a water softener (this is one way to mitigate manganese in water). Our buildings have all been on softened water since their construction or reconstruction (in the case of Humphrey and Winsted Elementary Schools – 2007)
- 2) All drinking water in the buildings (drinking fountains and bottle fillers) is filtered.

We plan to do some additional testing of our water in all our school buildings to check for manganese levels. Should we find levels considered to be too high as per the guidance, those issues will be corrected. Test results will also be placed on record at the District Office.

If you have any questions in regard to the manganese issue, please feel free to reach out to me. 320-543-4646 or bsellner@hlww.k12.mn.us

Sincerely,

Brad Sellner

Brad Sellner
Superintendent

Serving the communities of:
Howard Lake, Waverly, & Winsted