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May 22, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Beginning in November of 2027, the Environmental Protection Agency will mandate that all South Dakota schools test their drinking water fixtures for lead. The Winner School District volunteered to participate in a pilot testing program ahead of the mandate.

On March 28, 2026, we tested the school's water to see if it contains lead, a heavy metal that can cause health problems if ingested (swallowed). Lead was commonly used in building construction into the 1980s.

Our water contained small amounts of lead in some areas of the school. Two sinks (one in the MS and one in the elementary) and the water fountain in the Administration Building was identified as showing low levels of lead.

Because the level of lead found in the water was so low, the EPA does not require we replace these fixtures; however, the Winner School District will be replacing these fixtures in the summer of 2026.

The district will continue to remain committed to student and staff safety and will continue to follow all state and federal guidance. For more information visit: <https://doh.sd.gov/topics/diseases/infectious/sd-clppp/lead-poisoning-resources/>

If you have questions, please contact Stacy Halverson, Superintendent, by email at stacy.halverson@k12.sd.us or by phone at (605)842-8101.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stacy Halverson'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stacy Halverson
WSD Superintendent