



For Immediate Release

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Statement regarding water testing

ARLINGTON, Texas, Aug. 2, 2016 – Late last week, Arlington ISD administration was made aware of increased lead levels in the water at some Fort Worth ISD schools. The district immediately began working with the City of Arlington Water Utilities Department, which has offered to provide testing of our facilities.

The City of Arlington has a high confidence level in the safety of water coming into our buildings. The City has no known lead service lines, but lead contamination of drinking water can come from plumbing materials such as lead pipe, fittings, fixtures, solder and flux (used in pipe connections). Arlington Water Utilities tests for lead and copper in 50 sample homes every three years, using the precise protocol outlined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Arlington Water Utilities has met all standards required by the U.S. EPA/Texas Commission on Environmental Quality since testing began.

The district is working with the City to conduct a full testing at facilities – every water fountain and kitchen faucet. Arlington Water Utilities has trained teams of employees from the AISD plant services department to properly collect water samples. Beginning today, samples are being collected and sent to the City for testing. Due to the testing process requirements, it can take several days to receive results. The district will collect samples at as many schools as possible each day in order to complete sampling before school starts.

“The safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance,” Superintendent Dr. Marcelo Cavazos said. “We are working closely with the City of Arlington to ensure that the water in our facilities is safe.”

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