

CHPS EXTRA

Mask Mandate Extended; Water Testing Underway - 1/10/22

Gov. Phil Murphy Announces Extension of Mask Mandate in All Schools

During his [January 10, 2022 COVID Briefing](#), Gov. Phil Murphy announced that the mask mandate for all schools and daycare centers will be extended for "the foreseeable future."

"Our layered approach to safety is helping to minimize the spread inside our schools," the governor said. "Among other things, keeping our schools open is critically important. Our kids learn better when they're in their regular classrooms, and our educators are more effective when they are before a classroom."

Under the extended mandate, our students and staff will continue to follow current masking protocols.

CHPS Begins Latest Round of Water Testing in All Schools

Our school district is committed to protecting student, teacher and staff health and safety. On July 13, 2016, the State Board of Education adopted regulations at [N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4 Safe Drinking Water](#) regarding the testing for lead in drinking water in public schools throughout New Jersey. The [regulations were amended and readopted in August 2020](#). The amendment requires all covered entities, including all New Jersey public school districts, to test for lead in drinking water every three years beginning with the 2021-2022 school year. The lead testing in school drinking water cycle runs from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

In accordance with the NJ Department of Education regulations, the Cherry Hill School District will implement immediate remedial measures for any drinking water outlet with a result greater than the Lead Action Level of 15 ug/l (parts per billion [PPB]). This includes removing and capping the outlet unless it is determined the location must remain intact and useable for non-drinking purposes. In these cases, a "DO NOT DRINK – SAFE FOR HANDWASHING ONLY" sign will be posted.

Our testing is underway, with completion scheduled for April 19, 2022. Results for each building are being posted on the [District website](#) within 96 hours of our receiving the results. A paper copy of the test results will be available at each of our school buildings for viewing upon request. Please call or email your building principal if you would like to make an appointment to see the paper copy of the test results.

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD, or contact your healthcare provider.

If you are concerned about lead exposure at your school or in your home, you may want to ask your health care providers about testing children to determine the levels of lead in their blood.

Find "The Road Forward" Information on Our Website Here