INSERT SCHOOL LOGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELASE
Month Day, Year

Contact:
Name
School District Name
Phone Number
Email

**NAME of School District Releases Lead Testing Results**

CITY—NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT releases the results of lead tests for SCHOOL NAMES. The tests were completed as part of the requirements of the new Lead in School Drinking Water rule and included testing all water fixtures used for drinking water or food preparation. Lead in drinking water poses a health risk to children. The new rule provides increased protection to keep kids healthy by requiring Montana schools to test for lead and remediate any fixtures that exceed the state's new action level for school water systems.

Test results show INSERT A DESCRIPTION. (IF RESULTS ARE HIGH) NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT plans to remediate any fixtures or faucets exceeding the standard by TIMEFRAME. Future lead test results will be announced HOW? Parents will also receive a letter and/or email communicating these results.

“INSERT QUOTE FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT,” said NAME, ORGANIZATION and TITLE.

Children are especially susceptible to lead exposure because their bodies absorb the metal at higher rates than adults. Not every state requires schools to test for lead or sets standards for acceptable levels of lead. Montana has chosen to be proactive in order to protect all school children in the public schools across the State. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, no safe level of lead exposure in children has been identified. The new rule sets the Montana school requirement at a lead concentration of 0.005 mg/L, the lowest amount at which lead is accurately measured in water.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is managing the lead reduction in schools program for the State of Montana.

Lead enters drinking water when water is stagnant in lead pipes or plumbing systems. Before testing, schools are asked to flush faucets for a short period of time to remove stagnant water. The new rule requires schools to create and follow a regular flushing plan to reduce the risk of exposure to elevated levels of lead following prolonged periods of inactivity.

The lead rule was passed as part of a larger initiative by Department of Public Health and Human Services to update the administrative rules for schools, providing additional health and safety protection for youth in the State of Montana. Schools are required to test every three years and have until December 2021 to complete the first round of tests.

Lead sample test results for all Montana schools are reported from the laboratory on the DEQ website as soon as they are available at: https://bit.ly/2EinJtn

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About NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT:

DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT goes here and could include your mission, location and size.