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**THE DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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June 6, 2016

Dear Dover School Community:

As you know, the presence of lead in drinking water has been of concern throughout the nation. To protect our community, the Dover School District tests our schools' drinking water for lead and copper. The presence of lead or copper in high levels may have negative health effects, especially in young children.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has adopted and follows the Environmental Protection Agency's Lead and Copper Rule. The Lead and Copper Rule requires action to control the source of the lead if levels exceed 0.015 milligrams per liter (mg/L) and copper if levels exceed 1.3 mg/L.

The drinking water in each school was tested in April 2016. Please see below for the results.

School	Lead	Below Lead and Copper Rule Levels	Copper	Below Lead and Copper Rule Levels
Garrison Elementary School	0.0023	Yes	0.7636	Yes
Horne Street School	None Detected	Yes	0.1625	Yes
Woodman Park School	0.0025	Yes	0.8748	Yes
Dover Middle School	None Detected	Yes	1.82	No
Dover High School	0.0021	Yes	0.5028	Yes
Dover Alternative School	0.0010	Yes	0.5599	Yes

The site at Dover Middle School with high copper levels was a faucet in the kitchen. We believe the source of the copper is due to corrosion on some valves and pipes relating to mixing hot and cold water. These valves and pipes are already scheduled for replacement this summer and no drinking water is being taken from this source. We are determining which practices, such as daily flushing, using cold water only for drinking and food preparation, etc. should be conducted to prevent exposure to elevated copper levels.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult with their personal doctor.

***Dover School District Mission Statement***

*Strengthening our community by educating every child, every day!*

We are in the process of re-testing all water bubblers again to ensure that we have fully identified the source of elevated copper at Dover Middle School and to verify the results at all schools. We are also verifying that none of the bubblers in our schools are models that contain lead-lined tanks or other lead components.

I will keep you apprised of the results of all future testing and any corrective actions we are taking to keep our school community safe. Please feel free to contact me at [e.arbour@dover.k12.nh.us](mailto:e.arbour@dover.k12.nh.us) or (603) 516-6802 with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elaine M. Arbour". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Elaine M. Arbour, Ed.D.  
SAU #11 Superintendent of Schools