



**STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
HALE'IWA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
66-505 HALE'IWA ROAD
HALE'IWA, HAWAI'I 96712**

July 28, 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Hawaii Department of Education and the Hawaii Department of Health partnered with us to test the drinking water for lead at Hawaii elementary schools. On July 13th, samples were taken from all taps used for drinking or food preparation at Hale`iwa Elementary and tested for lead. Results have returned showing at least one (1) tap had levels of lead above the project action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb). The full results can be viewed at health.hawaii.gov/WIIN/results by clicking the link for schools in our county and then searching by our school name.

An action level of 15 ppb was set for this project and any results above this action level requires the tap to be blocked from use until the problem can be corrected. The tap(s) that tested above the action level have been blocked off and will not be used until further evaluation is complete. Follow up testing will be done and the information from these results will be used to determine the best way to fix the problem. Options include replacement of the fixture or plumbing, converting the tap to a hand-wash only station, or permanent closure of the tap.

Because lead can be harmful to children even in smaller amounts, the Department of Health recommends schools with taps with lower levels of lead take corrective action to decrease the amount of lead present in the drinking water. Corrective action can include such options as:

- Flushing the water before use until a uniform temperature is reached (no less than 30 seconds)
- Using a filter certified to remove lead and periodically replacing filter cartridges
- Frequent cleaning of aerators
- Using the identified fixture for handwashing only and using bottled water for drinking/cooking
- Replacing the faucet or plumbing with certified lead free materials

Our school is working with the Department of Education and the Department of Health to solve these problems and minimize students' exposure to lead from drinking water.

Childhood lead exposure remains a concern for many of Hawaii's keiki as children can be exposed to lead from many sources in their homes and communities.

- If you are concerned about your child's potential lead exposure please contact your child's doctor to discuss blood lead testing.
- If you have general questions about childhood lead exposure please visit lead.hawaii.gov
- If you have questions about this project or the results, please contact the Hawaii Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (HI-CLPPP) at (808) 586-4345 or visit the project webpage at health.hawaii.gov/WIIN.

Sincerely,

Malaea Wetzel
Principal