

Lamoille Union High School

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Dear Lamoille Family,

February 19, 2016

We are working with the Agency of Natural Resources regarding concerns with our Lamoille campus water system. The attached notice sheet summarizes the issues and possible resolutions concerning our system. Most importantly, please realize that our water is currently safe. There is, however, concern that levels of copper are increasing in our water supply after the well built in 2006 went into service. There may be a time in the near future where we would have to stop using this well. It is essential therefore, that we take a proactive approach.

Copper is a naturally-occurring metallic element that occurs in soil. It is present in all animals and plants and is an essential nutrient for humans and animals in small amounts. Except for individuals with Wilson's Disease, a genetic disorder in which copper builds up in the liver, copper levels are normally safely regulated by the body.

The recommended short-term approach for the most expedient remedy is to return to the use of our alternate well. While this well has never tested positive for any harmful compounds or elements its proximity to soil areas known to be compromised by removed underground tanks makes it an unlikely permanent solution unless the water can be treated through appropriate filtration. There will be a need to do VOC (volatile organic compounds) testing. The permit requires quarterly testing for VOC's, but we will be testing bi-weekly until a permanent water source solution can be designed and enacted. The administration is working on creating a project plan and cost estimate for these scenarios for the board's consideration. On February 16th, the school board approved the use of funds from the Capital Reserve to address any short term solution costs. Regardless of the direction that is determined for a long-term solution, we need to be proactive and install some localized filtering infrastructure that will be placed in our production kitchens, culinary program kitchen and the four newer drinking fountains on campus. In the event of a detection above applicable drinking water standards that could trigger a stop drinking order, we would still be able to keep the campus open and operate school.

We will continue to keep you informed on any further updates as necessary.

Sincerely,

Lamoille Union Administration