

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Recently there has been media attention focused on lead in drinking water at Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) schools. The following is important information to keep you up-to-date about the situation at the LAUSD.

In 1988, the District tested drinking water fountains and confirmed proper flushing reduces lead levels to acceptable limits as established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). At that time, the LAUSD instituted a policy requiring the flushing of drinking water fountains for at least 30 seconds prior to the first use of the day to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Parents and guardians should be aware that lead in drinking water may exist in homes and other areas throughout the community. Any structure constructed before 1989 with galvanized pipes or pipes where lead solder was used may leach lead into drinking water. In 1993, the U.S. EPA issued guidelines for households to flush faucets to reduce the amount of lead in drinking water.

The LAUSD has implemented a plan to ensure that drinking water in our schools is safe. In particular, the District has initiated testing and inspection programs at all schools to verify compliance with the flushing policy. It is important that school staff adheres to the flushing policy and that training is provided to appropriate staff on these requirements.

Please be assured that the safety and welfare of our students is our highest priority. LAUSD is taking the necessary proactive steps to make certain our students and staff has access to safe drinking water.

Please direct any questions on lead in drinking water to the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (213) 241-3199 and questions on lead exposure and health risks to Student Medical Services at (213) 765-2830 or contact your personal health care provider.

Sincerely,

Principal