Dr. Vanessa Buitrago
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Modesto City Schools
426 Locust Street
Modesto, CA 95351
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www.mcs4kids.com

Gregori High School

Public Notice Re: Lead in Drinking Water
August 2026

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Por favor hable con alguien que lo pueda traducir.

(A) **INTRODUCTION.** The California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Gregori High School Water System are concerned about lead in your drinking water. Some drinking water samples taken from this facility have lead levels above the EPA action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb), or 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter of water (mg/L). Under Federal law we are required to have a program in place to minimize lead in your drinking water by *December 1, 2027*. This program includes corrosion control treatment, source water treatment, and public education. We are also required to replace the portion of each fixture that we own if the fixture contributes to lead concentrations of more than 15 ppb after we have completed the comprehensive treatment program. If you have any questions about how we are carrying out the requirements of the lead regulation, please give us a call at (209) 838-7842. This brochure explains the simple steps you can take to protect yourself by reducing your exposure to lead in drinking water.

(B) **HEAL TH EFFECTS OF LEAD**. There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

1. Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of infants who drink baby formulas and concentrated juices that are mixed with water. The EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20 percent or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

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2. Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome-plated brass faucets, and in some cases, pipes made of lead that connect houses and buildings to water mains (service lines). In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials to 8.0%.

3. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

(C) **STEPS YOU CAN TAKE.** Steps you can take to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water include:

1. Let the water run from the tap before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in a faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer water resides in plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold-water faucet for about 15-30 seconds. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of the plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your health. It usually uses less than one gallon of water.
2. Do not cook with, or drink water from the hot water tap. Hot water can dissolve more lead more quickly than cold water. If you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and then heat it.
3. The steps described above will reduce the lead concentrations in your drinking water. However, if you are still concerned, you may wish to use bottled water for drinking and cooking.
4. You can consult a variety of sources for additional information. Your family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide you with information about the health effects of lead. State and local government agencies that can be contacted include:
    a. Quality Service, Inc. at (209) 838-7842 can provide you with information about your facility's water supply; and
    b. California State Water Resources Control Board, Lead and Copper Division, at (916) 341-5925 or via email at DDW-LCR@waterboards.ca.gov or the Stanislaus County Environmental Resources Department at (209) 525-6700 can provide you with information about the health effects of lead.

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