



August 2, 2016

St. Teresa of Avila School
Bill Thoman
1175 Overlook Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45238

Dear Mr. Thoman,

Attached please find the results of the lead analyses performed for St. Teresa of Avila School by the Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW). We appreciate the opportunity to assist you in understanding the water quality within your school. Our water utility provides a robust partnership with the schools within our service area to help schools understand their water quality. We consider this a high priority and have proactively partnered with schools to:

- explain our records of service lines providing water to the schools;
- verify the actual service lines;
- share a link or a copy of the recommended *USEPA 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools: Revised Technical Guidance Document (3Ts Guidelines)*;
- provide sample kits to the schools;
- analyze the samples;
- discuss the results in detail;
- consider follow-up samples, if needed;
- offer assistance with a remediation plan;
- assist with creating a communications plan for the school community.

The following comments speak to the process and samples analyzed to date, and additional steps needed to ensure the safety of all the students within your school.

Sampling Protocol in School

GCWW recognizes that there is no federal law requiring testing of drinking water in schools, except for schools that have their own water supply and are therefore regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). GCWW recommends schools follow the guidelines outlined in the *USEPA 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools: Revised Technical Guidance Document (3Ts Guidelines)*.

St. Teresa of Avila School followed the recommended 3Ts Guidelines and has been extremely proactive, moving quickly to understand the water quality in the school. Actions taken by St. Teresa and appreciated by GCWW include 1) early attendance at one of the GCWW informational meetings for schools; 2) completion of a plumbing profile for the school; and 3) timely request of sample bottles and collection of samples. These swift actions demonstrate your dedication to making sure the students within your school have access to safe drinking water throughout the school building.



Sample Results

GCWW records show the school is served by a cast iron (CI) service line; no lead service lines are known to be active at your school. We analyzed 40 samples for your school. Sample results show:

- 10 samples didn't have any lead detections (<1);
- 26 samples had lead detections, however the detection was less than the action level of 15ppb;
- 4 samples had lead detections, higher than the detection level.

Since no lead service lines provide water to the school, GCWW recommends follow-up sampling at some sample locations with detections. This may help understand if fixtures/faucets are contributing to the lead detections. GCWW recognizes that St. Teresa worked quickly to take all drinking and cooking outlet sample locations that tested above the detection level out of service and that extensive remediation plans are in place within the school to address lead detections. We recommend that St. Teresa continues with this approach; GCWW is available to assist if needed.

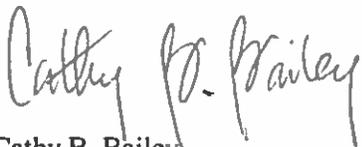
Next steps

As shared above, follow-up sampling and continued work with the remediation plan are recommendations from GCWW; continue to work through these processes. State funds are also available to assist schools through the new Lead Plumbing Fixture Replacement Assistance Grant Program established to provide reimbursement to eligible schools for the assessment and replacement of certain plumbing fixtures. More information about the program, can be found on the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) website at <http://ofcc.ohio.gov/ServicesPrograms/LeadFixtureReplacementGrants.aspx>.

A robust communications plan is suggested as well. This plan will inform the school community of the proactive work the school has done to date and the steps the school is taking to correct any issues discovered. GCWW employees can assist with this plan if needed and are available to attend any school meetings to help explain our lead program, the sample results and our partnership with your school. GCWW can't express enough our appreciation for your school personnel taking such a proactive approach to quickly understand the water quality of the school and working promptly to minimize risks within the school. Your commitment to keeping the youth in our community safe and healthy is noticed and truly valued!

Greater Cincinnati Water Works takes the presence of lead service lines and the removal of those service lines in our system very seriously. In addition, minimizing the exposure of lead within our preschools, schools, and daycares is one of our highest priorities under our Enhanced Lead Program. We look forward to additional partnerships with schools and hope we can share the work that St. Teresa of Avila has done as a model for other schools to follow. Our resources will continue to be available to assist you in many ways. Please contact Kathy Frey at 591-5068 to discuss next steps and further assistance where needed.

Proud to see you're 'getting the lead out',



Cathy B. Bailey
Director/Greater Cincinnati Water Works