



Stanley P. Williams II
Superintendent

Harnett County Schools

Office of Superintendent

P. O. Box 1029
Lillington, NC 27546
910-893-8151
Fax: 910-893-4279

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Dear Parents:

Harnett County Schools considers the safety of our students and staff to be our primary responsibility. Harnett County Schools retained Phoenix EnviroCorp to test the water at our schools over the summer in response to questions about water quality in our school system. These tests indicated slightly elevated levels of lead at two of our schools – Benhaven Elementary and Erwin Elementary.

Once Harnett County Schools learned of these results, we immediately began implementing steps to ensure safe water for our students and staff at Benhaven and Erwin. These steps included (1) flushing the school's water system on days prior to school days following weekends and holidays, (2) removing water fountains and sinks, and replacing them with water dispensers and hand-washing stations from outside sources, and (3) bringing in non-contaminated water for school cafeterias and ice machines. We are also continually monitoring the situation while seeking a permanent solution.

Please note this issue only involves the two schools in question and Harnett County Public Utilities is partnering with us to address this issue. All water supplied from Public Utilities is tested regularly and extensively for numerous factors including lead levels.

We will provide further updates as this process continues, and we appreciate your continued support.

Respectfully,

Stan Williams, Superintendent
Harnett County Schools