Fairport schools release results of lead testing

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The Fairport school district announced Monday it had found elevated levels of lead in water samples collected from 52 drinking fountains and other sources in four schools and several other buildings.

All the fixtures have been turned off as a precaution, the district said in a statement. Further testing will help determine long-term solutions.

Results aren’t in yet from Fairport High School, Johanna Perrin, Dudley and Northside, the district said.

Schools are not required to test water inside their buildings for lead, but many in the Rochester area and elsewhere have begun to do so after the crisis in Flint, Michigan, as well as reports of elevated lead levels in some Southern Tier schools.

Water typically picks up lead as it stands in older pipes that contain lead or lead-based solder. The federal action level for lead in drinking water is 15 parts per billion.

Fairport did not release any of its findings, but provided the following list: Brooks Hill (three fixtures, including one drinking fountain); Jefferson Avenue (13 fixtures, including three drinking fountains); Martha Brown (17 fixtures); Minerva De-Land (15 fixtures, including one drinking fountain); Baumer Place (one drinking fountain); Transportation (two fixtures); District Office (one fixture), and ISC/Buildings & Grounds (none). The Democrat and Chronicle is compiling a list of test results from the region’s school districts.

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