



Butler Area School District
110 Campus Lane
Butler, PA 16001

Contact: Dr. Dale Lumley
724.214.3105
dale_lumley@butler.k12.pa.us

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Butler Area School District – Summit Elementary Water

Butler, PA – The students and staff at Summit Elementary School in Summit Township were given bottled water yesterday and told not to drink the water from the well on the property. Dr. Dale Lumley, Superintendent, said that the steps were taken in response to elevated lead readings from the well.

Lumley said that elevated readings were first detected last September by our maintenance supervisor who had been working with the DEP to address the test results of the water in the building. “We had readings in August with significantly high levels of lead,” he said, “but those results were not shared with me or the board until yesterday.”

When Lumley learned yesterday that the District’s response to DEP procedures were both untimely and inadequate, he ordered that bottled water must be used until future test results indicate acceptable levels. Well water at the site can continue to be used in the lavatories, but hand sanitizers and wet-wipes are being used for hand-washing.

“We want to take the steps necessary – no matter how long – to ensure that the water is safe to drink,” said Lumley. He said the District will continue to provide bottled water or commercial water dispensers until further testing and correction plans are implemented and monitored.

The District is working with the DEP, a water testing company - CWM, Gannett Fleming Engineers, as well as health and water purification consultants, to take immediate corrective actions.

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