

VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Water in Vandenberg Village Schools Tested for Lead

Vandenberg Village, CA, February 8, 2018. Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD) recently tested for lead within the potable water systems of all four schools in Vandenberg Village: Cabrillo High, Maple High, Buena Vista Elementary, and Children's Montessori. Certified water operators took a total of 14 samples on January 10 which were analyzed by an independent certified laboratory, Clinical Laboratory of San Bernardino, Inc. The lab results of all samples were "Not Detected (ND)" for lead.

Although there is no lead in the groundwater that VVCSD treats and delivers to its customers, including schools, lead from solder and fixtures like drinking fountains can sometimes enter water as it flows through interior plumbing systems.

Potential health effects on children who drink water containing elevated levels of lead, over a long period of time, include delays in physical or mental development and slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities.

A recent California law, Assembly Bill 746, requires community water systems such as VVCSD to test for lead in all public schools serving kindergarten through Grade 12 before January 1, 2019. Water samples were taken from four fountains or faucets used for drinking and preparing food within each of the three Lompoc Unified School District public schools. Although the law does not require testing within private schools, VVCSD made the decision to take two samples from the small Children's Montessori School in Vandenberg Village. "Lead concentrations were not only below the EPA action limit of 15 parts per billion, there was no lead at all—in any of the samples, at any of the schools," said Mike Garner, VVCSD Operations & Maintenance Manager. "These results should assure parents that their children can drink safe water when they are at school," he added.

VVCSD is an independent special district that provides water and wastewater services to a community of 7,000 people in northern Santa Barbara County. It is governed by a five-member, elected board of directors.

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