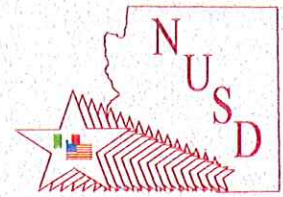


Nogales Unified School District No. 1



February 17, 2017

Dear NUSD Parents and School Community:

We would like to provide an update and background information regarding the water quality testing at NUSD schools. Back in August-September of 2016, as a proactive approach, I recommended that our District drinking water be sampled and tested. Water samples were taken from each school building and one of our middle schools (Desert Shadows) showed exceedances of water quality standards. The drinking water fountains, however, did not show any exceedance of the water quality standards. Out of an abundance of caution, we have been providing filtered and bottled water at the school since those results were received. (A drinking water plan is in place that includes drinking and hand washing stations). Our school community and our parents were advised of the water quality results. We also provided information of the measures the District was taking as it continues to work to resolve this water quality issue.

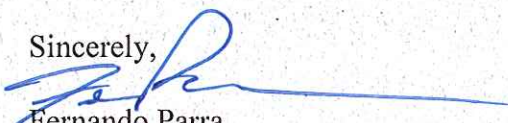
Throughout this time, we have been working with the Arizona School Facilities Board (ASFB), who has been assisting and working directly with the District to find a solution and resolve this matter. Additional water samples were taken to investigate the source of the issue. The ASFB, together with Dominion Environmental Consultants, believe that the source of the problem might be the hot water heaters. Recently, the infrastructure and fixtures were repaired and the hot water heaters were replaced. More water samples are being taken at this time as we continue to monitor and evaluate the water quality.

Working together with the ASFB, we are going through the process of replacing all hot water heaters at all of our schools, starting with Bracker Elementary, and eventually working through all of our ten school buildings in our District. NUSD has taken this proactive approach to confirm the quality of the District's water.

In January of 2017, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) announced that it is funding and sponsoring a Public School Drinking Water Lead Screening Program, and will be testing the drinking water at our schools. This is a voluntary program that is being offered statewide. Because NUSD will be participating in this proactive statewide program, the water quality will be tested once again at all of our schools. We are currently planning and scheduling for the water quality testing to be implemented within the next few weeks. We will be utilizing sample kits provided by ADEQ, and the samples/collected containers will be submitted to contracted laboratories for testing. We wanted to make you aware of these activities and to keep you informed of this additional voluntary testing that will be conducted under the supervision of ADEQ.

We appreciate your support and understanding. We are committed to the health and safety of our students and our school communities. We will be communicating with you throughout this process. If you have any questions, please contact the Superintendent's Office at any time.

Sincerely,



Fernando Parra
Superintendent