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October 10, 2016

Dear MITCH Families & Friends,

Our school is committed to protecting student, teacher, and staff health. To protect our community, MITCH Charter School tests our drinking water for lead.

***Why Test Drinking Water for Lead?***

High levels of lead in drinking water can cause health problems. Lead is most dangerous for pregnant women, infants, and children under 6 years old. Exposure to high levels of lead during pregnancy contributes to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. In young children, lead exposure can lower IQ levels, affect hearing, reduce attention span, and hurt school performance. At very high levels, lead can even cause brain damage.

To protect public health, the State Board of Education requires schools to test their drinking water for lead and to report the findings within five days of receiving the results. If lead is found at any water outlets at levels above 20 parts per billion (ppb), the U.S. Environmental Agency recommends taking action to reduce the lead.

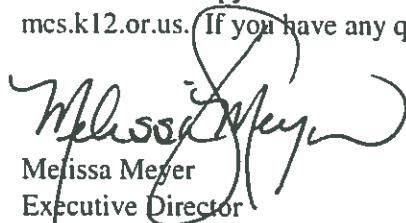
***Is MITCH's Drinking Water Safe?***

Yes, our school's water is safe. MITCH Charter School tested our drinking water for lead. Of the 13 water samples we tested, none showed lead levels above the 20 ppb mark. In other words, none of the water outlets tested had any lead problems.

The only outlet with an elevated lead level was the Science Lab sink which also measured high in turbidity. Nevertheless, the sample for this water outlet falls well below the EPA 20 ppb mark.

***How Can I Learn More?***

You can see a copy of all of our water testing results at the school office or under the *Resources* tab [mcs.k12.or.us](http://mcs.k12.or.us). If you have any questions, give me a call.



Melissa Meyer  
Executive Director