



Adopted: 12/17/2025

Revised: _____

Policy Name: LEAD TESTING AND CONSISTENT WATER QUALITY PLAN

OSHKI OGIMAAG CHARTER SCHOOL

I. Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to protect the health of students, staff, and visitors by ensuring Oshki Ogimaag Charter School (OOCs) provides safe, high-quality drinking water. This plan outlines OOCs's procedures for testing for lead in drinking water, communicating results, and addressing any exceedances in accordance with Minnesota law and recommended public health practices.

II. Policy Statement

OOCs is committed to maintaining safe drinking water through periodic lead testing, timely communication with families and staff, and prompt corrective action when test results indicate lead levels above recommended thresholds. OOCs will follow Minnesota Statutes §121A.335, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidance, and any future regulatory updates.

III. Scope

This plan applies to:

- All school facilities owned or leased by OOCs.
- All potable water sources used for consumption or food preparation, including drinking fountains, bottle-filling stations, classroom sinks used

- for drinking, kitchen sinks, food preparation areas, and nurse's office sinks.
- Any additional water outlets designated by OOCS for student or staff drinking water.

IV. Legal Authority

This plan aligns with:

- Minn. Stat. §121A.335 – Lead in School Drinking Water.
- Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Lead in School Drinking Water Model Plan.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommendations for schools.

V. Responsibilities

- School Board: Adopts the plan and reviews it at least every 5 years.
- Executive Director: Oversees implementation and compliance. Conducts or coordinates testing activities, maintains testing and maintenance records, and implements corrective actions. Communicates results, provides notifications, and coordinates public posting.
- Certified Testing Laboratory: Provides testing protocols and materials, performs analysis, and delivers results

VI. Testing Requirements and Schedule

1. Frequency: OOCS will test all potable water fixtures at least once every 5 years, as required by Minn. Stat. §121A.335. Testing may follow a staggered schedule if appropriate.
2. Initial Testing Year: OOCS's first full round of testing under this plan will occur within 5 years of its most recent test.
3. Ongoing Testing Schedule: Subsequent testing will occur on a 5-year cycle.
4. Testing Method: OOCS will use first-draw samples collected after water has been stagnant for 8–18 hours, follow MDH-approved sampling protocols, and use an MDH-certified testing laboratory.
5. Fixture Inventory: OOCS will maintain an updated inventory including:
 - Fixture location
 - Type of fixture
 - Last test date
 - Status (in service, removed, filtered, etc.).

VII. Lead Threshold and Corrective Action

If results show lead greater than the MDH action level (20 parts per billion), corrective action is required.

Immediate Corrective Action: OOCS will:

- Immediately remove the fixture from service or post "Not for Drinking" signage.
- Provide safe alternative drinking water sources (such as bottled water or other fixtures).
- Notify staff and families as outlined below.

Resolution Action Options:

Corrective actions to resolve the issue will be determined based on fixture location, infrastructure, and consultation with facilities personnel, MDH guidance, and any external consultant or engineer engaged by OOCS. These may include interventions such as flushing, fixture cleaning, fixture replacement, installation of filters certified for lead removal, or remediation of plumbing components

Post-Corrective Testing:

Affected fixtures must be retested and documented before being returned to service to confirm that lead levels are below the action level.

VIII. Communication Procedures

1. Required Notifications: OOCS will provide notification to all staff and families within 10 school days of receiving results when any fixture exceeds the MDH action level. Notification will include a description of the results, fixtures affected, corrective actions taken or planned, and how safe drinking water will be provided during remediation.

2. Public Posting: OOCS will post a Lead Testing Results Summary and a copy of this Lead Testing and Consistent Water Quality Plan on OOCS's public website at www.oshkiogimaag.org.

3. Points of Contact: Families and staff may direct questions about water quality or testing results to the OOCS Executive Director at 218-475-2112 or via email at director@oshkiogimaag.org.

IX. Recordkeeping

OOCS will maintain the following records:

- All laboratory reports.
- Fixture inventories.
- Corrective action logs.
- Copies of staff and parent/guardian notifications.
- Evidence of required posting on OOCS website.
- Verification of retesting results.

Records will be kept for a minimum of 15 years, or longer if legally required.

X. Training and Operational Practices

OOCS will ensure that staff performing the testing is trained in MDH sampling protocols and operational procedures, including:

- Proper sampling techniques.
- Maintenance and flushing schedules.
- Documentation requirements.
- Protocols for addressing lead exceedances and coordinating with external entities (MDH, water utility, etc.).

XI. Annual Review and Five-Year Plan Renewal

This plan will be reviewed annually by school administration to confirm readiness, update site-specific information (such as contacts, laboratory, or fixture inventory), and incorporate any new MDH guidance or legal requirements. The plan will be formally re-adopted by OOCS board every 5 years, or earlier if major changes occur to facilities, operations, or applicable law. Revised versions will be posted publicly as required by Minn. Stat. §121A.335.