



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

December 11, 2020

The Honorable Fred H. Mills, Jr., Chairman
Senate Health and Welfare Committee
P.O. Box 94183, Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

The Honorable Larry Bagley, Chairman
House Health and Welfare Committee
P.O. Box 94062, Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Act 632 – 2020 Results of School Drinking Water Testing

Dear Gentlemen,

Act 632 of the 2018 Regular Session required the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to establish a pilot program for drinking water testing at 12 public elementary schools that were constructed prior to 1986 or which may otherwise be susceptible to drinking water contamination.

During the 2020-21 school season, 12 schools were tested for lead and copper in accordance with Act 632. A total of 348 samples from 173 sites were taken from schools throughout the State of Louisiana. All samples were collected with guidance provided in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - *3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools Manual* (2006) along with additional LDH requirements. The EPA-3Ts Manual was developed to assist schools with lead in drinking water prevention programs. This guidance is intended for use by school officials responsible for the maintenance and/or safety of school's drinking water. The document along with other helpful information is available on EPA's website at:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/3ts-reducing-lead-drinking-water-schools-and-child-care-facilities>

The test results were sent to each school that participated along with any LDH recommendations, including the guidance provided in the EPA-3Ts Manual to safeguard against lead in the drinking water. LDH reviewed the results to determine if the test results were above the EPA's Action Levels for Lead (0.015 mg/L) and Copper (1.3 mg/L).

Attached is a summary of the 2020 results. A full detail of all sample results and associated school information for 2018, 2019 and 2020 are available on the following website:

<http://ldh.la.gov/schooldrinkingwater>

Please feel free to contact me regarding any of the enclosed information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amanda Ames".

Amanda Ames, P.E.
LDH/OPH Chief Engineer and Safe Drinking Water Administrator

Attachments

cc: Jimmy Guidry, M.D., State Health Officer and Medical Director

ENGINEERING SERVICES

Bienville Building ▪ 628 N. Fourth St. ▪ P.O. Box 4489 ▪ Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4489
Phone: (225) 342-7499 ▪ Fax: (225) 342-7303 ▪ www.ldh.la.gov

An Equal Opportunity Employer

2020 School Lead Testing Pilot

This table lists the results of the water testing conducted at 12 elementary schools in 2020 for Act 632. The columns labeled *Max Lead Level (mg/L)* and *Max Copper Level (mg/L)* contain the maximum level of the test results for lead and copper, respectively. The Action Level (AL) in drinking water for Lead is 0.015 mg/L and Copper is 1.3 mg/L. For each school sampling event, two water samples (a first draw and a flush sample) were collected from each water outlet that is used for consumption or cooking. Four of the 12 schools tested had at least one result above the Lead Action Level. Those schools are noted below. In all cases where sample results were above the ALs, the school was provided with recommended control or remediation measures.

No	School Name	Parish	School Built Date	Total Students	Total Samples	Total Sample Sites	Max Lead Level (mg/L)	Fixture Type	Max Copper Level (mg/L)	Fixture Type
1	Boothville-Venice Elementary School	PLAQUEMINES	1971	350	28	14	0.027¹	Cafeteria Handwash Sink	2.2²	Kitchen Pot Filler
2	Delcambre Elementary School	IBERIA	1965	488	28	14	0.012	Kitchen Pot Filler	1.1	Drinking Fountain
3	Slaughter Elementary School	EAST FELICIANA	1967	494	12	6	0.004	Drinking Fountain	0.4	Drinking Fountain
4	Frost School	LIVINGSTON	1954	350	22	11	0.002	Drinking Fountain	0.9	Drinking Fountain
5	Olla-Standard Elementary School	LASALLE	1958	380	24	12	0.001	Drinking Fountain	1.2	Drinking Fountain
6	John L. Ory Communications Magnet Elem	ST JOHN	1935	319	46	23	0.006	Classroom Sink Drinking Spout	0.3	Drinking Fountain
7	Rayville Elementary School	RICHLAND	1950	370	18	9	ND ³	All	0.9	Drinking Fountain
8	W.P. Foster Elementary School	ST MARY	1958	780	42	21	0.044¹	Classroom Sink Faucet	3.7²	Classroom Sink Faucet
9	Rougon Elementary School	POINTE COUPEE	1940	389	32	16	ND ³	All	0.2	Drinking Fountain
10	Bossier Elementary School	BOSSIER	1923	295	38	19	0.038⁴	Kitchen Pot Filler	3.3²	Drinking Fountain
11	Cypress Grove Montessori	ST JAMES	1956	162	26	13	0.007	Kitchen Sink	0.7	Drinking Fountain
12	J. A. Phillips Elementary School	WEBSTER	1972	500	32	15	0.327⁵	Drinking Fountain	10.4²	Drinking Fountain
			Totals	4877	348	173				

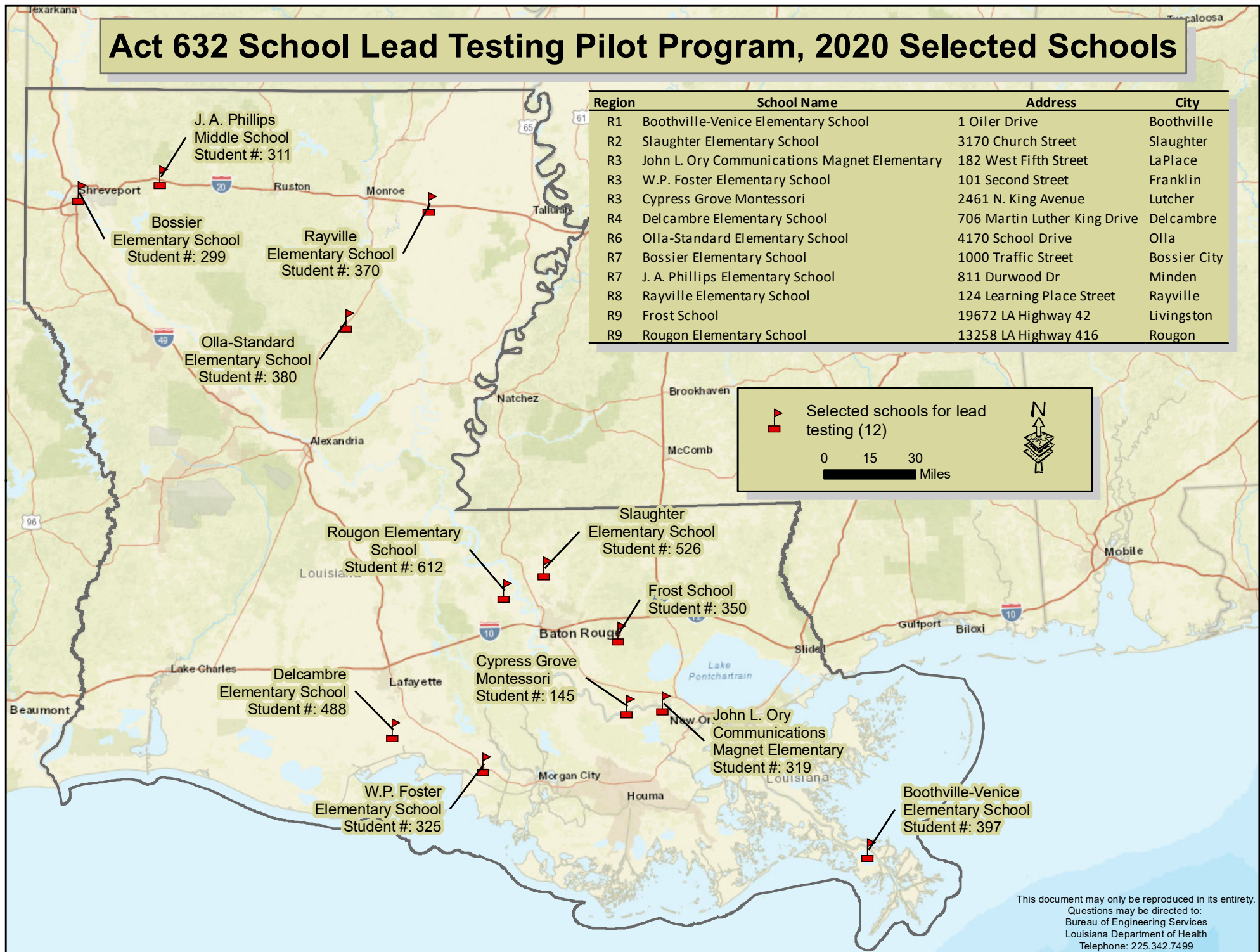
Notes:

- ¹ Sample result is above the Lead Action Level. Recommended action was a **Do Not Drink** sign for the fixture since flushing the fixture did not reduce the Lead level enough.
- ² Sample result is above the Copper Action Level. Recommended action was to flush fixture prior to use.
- ³ ND = Non-Detect; results for all fixtures sampled were non-detect.
- ⁴ Sample result is above the Lead Action Level. Recommended action was to replace fixture and flush prior to use.
- ⁵ Initial sample result is above the Lead Action Level. Flush and follow-up samples are ND. Based on the high turbidity level of the initial sample, LDH attributes the high lead level to stagnation. Recommended action was to implement a flushing program at the school.

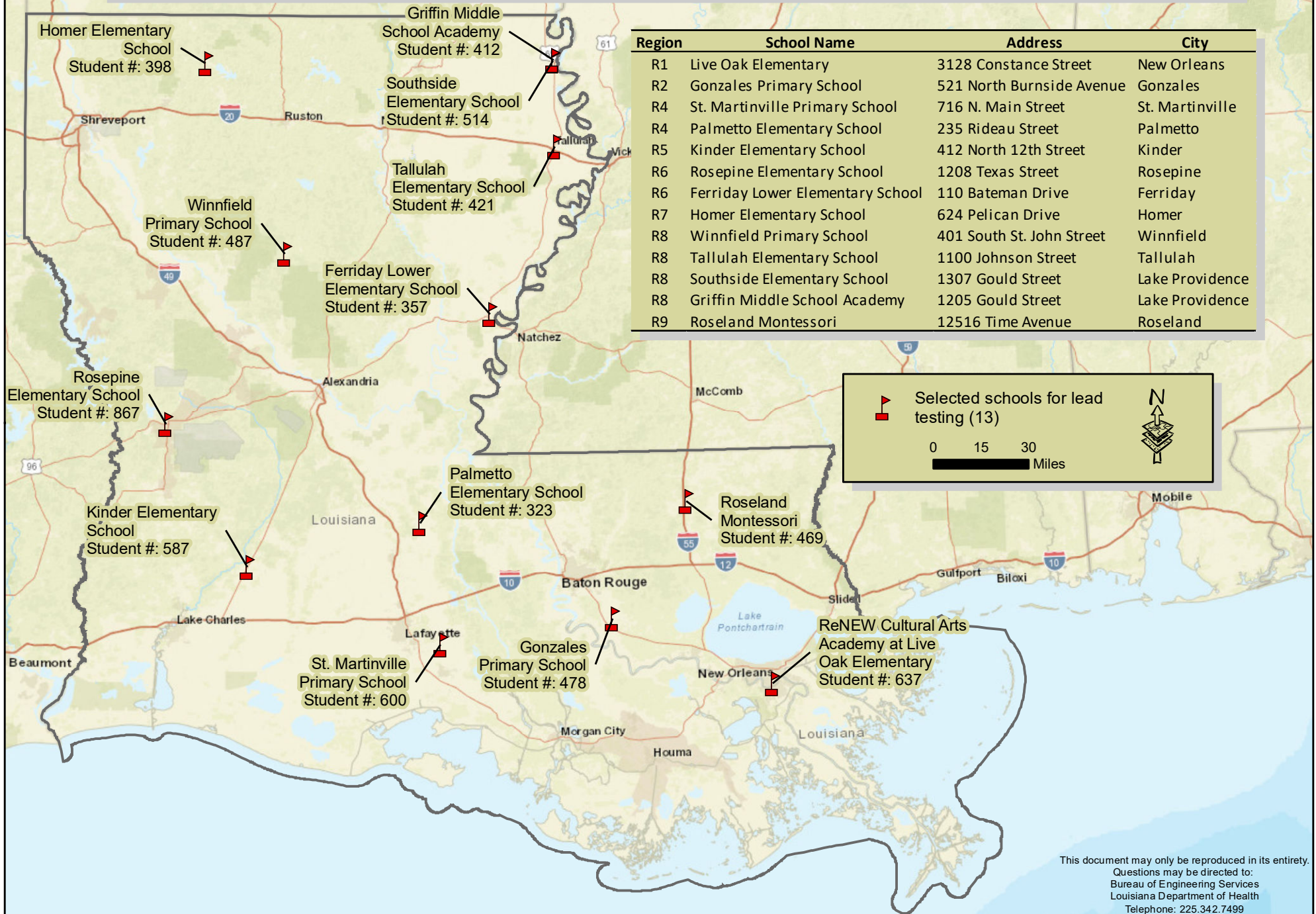
Sample Types:

- First Draw Sample = Sample collected after fixture has not been used for a minimum of 6 hours. This is a representative sample of the water in the fixture.
- Flush Sample = Water is flushed through fixture prior to sampling. This is a representative sample of the water in the premise plumbing/piping.

Act 632 School Lead Testing Pilot Program, 2020 Selected Schools



Act 632 School Lead Testing Pilot Program, 2019 Selected Schools



Act 632 School Lead Testing Pilot Program, 2018 Selected Schools

