

## **Update on Water Quality Assessment at Chino Valley Unified School District January 7, 2014**

Water from approximately 850 potable water outlets at 15 school sites underwent a second round of testing. Approximately 87 percent (740 outlets) were found to be below the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommended standard for lead in drinking water at schools of 20 parts per billion (ppb). Based on these results, the District is turning these fountains back on. The remaining 110 potable water outlets that tested above the EPA recommended standard for lead or above the State action level for copper for water purveyors (1,300 ppb) will remain turned off pending further evaluation.

Ardent Environmental Group has advised the District to use the EPA recommended standard of 20 ppb for lead in drinking water.

“During the initial sampling events, the District used the conservative action levels for lead and copper of 15 ppb and 1,300 ppb, respectively, as a preliminary screening tool,” said Paul Roberts, Professional Geologist with Ardent Environmental Group. “These action levels were promulgated by the Federal and State Lead and Copper Rules for use by water purveyors to monitor community water systems and are not drinking water standards or applicable to school facilities. The EPA recommended standard of 20 ppb for lead in drinking water is specifically written for the management of lead in drinking water at school sites.”

The District will continue to evaluate the lead and copper levels in drinking water at school sites. The next step in the process to remove the restrictions from the 110 water outlets involves further sampling and testing and an action plan to address individual plumbing fixtures where lead or copper is still a concern. These steps will be completed

over the next few weeks. In the meantime, the suspected drinking water outlets will remain inactive and bottled water will continue to be provided, as needed.