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News Release

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All Fulton County schools will be open under normal schedule Wednesday, March 6

All 24 schools affected by a water main break in South Fulton now have adequate water pressure and will operate on a normal schedule Wednesday, March 6.

The schools are:

Elementary Schools

A. Philip Randolph ES
Bethune ES
Campbell ES
Cliftondale ES
Evoline C. West ES
Feldwood ES
Gullatt ES
Heritage ES
Love T. Nolan ES
Oakley ES
Renaissance ES
Seaborn Lee ES
S.L. Lewis ES
Stonewall Tell ES
Wolf Creek ES

Middle Schools

Bear Creek MS
Camp Creek MS
McNair MS
Renaissance MS
Sandtown MS

High Schools

Banneker HS
Creekside HS
Langston Hughes HS
Westlake HS

The boil water advisory remains in effect as ordered by the Atlanta Department of Watershed Management. Schools will continue to have bottled water for drinking, while water fountains and other drinking water sources will be off-limits. Cafeterias also are planning alternate meals that either do not require water for cooking, or use bottled water for meal preparation. Bathrooms are clean and operational at each school.

Fulton County Schools has been communicating with the Department of Watershed Management since Monday when the water main issue was reported. Early information was that water pressure would be restored in the first few hours of the March 5 school day, requiring some minor and temporary issues to work through. The resolution, however, did not fully come until later this evening.

Throughout Tuesday, schools reported varying issues ranging from low water pressure but operational

bathrooms, to no water at all which resulted in the Fulton County Board of Health requiring that Campbell Elementary School students and staff be moved to an alternate site. Palmetto Elementary School was chosen as the nearest school without water issues that had available space for receiving, feeding and housing Campbell's students.

Explaining why all 24 schools were not closed Tuesday, Chief Academic Officer Cliff Jones said it comes down to doing what is right for students and their families.

“Our goal is to keep schools open for safety and academic reasons. If a school is affected by a situation, then it's likely homes in the area are also impacted by the issue,” said Jones. “For many children, school is the place where they have heat, meals, supervision, and can feel safe. By keeping school open, our parents have a safe place for their children, whereas closing school may have them searching for childcare and supervision. We always aim to do what is safest for our students.”

“In all, our staff and students handled an unusual situation today with professionalism and maturity,” Jones said. “We also appreciate our community's support. Many parents went above and beyond to be helpful to the schools.”

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About the Fulton County School System. The Fulton County School System is the fourth largest school system in Georgia. More than 95,000 students attend 106 schools in the cities of Alpharetta, Chattahoochee Hills, College Park, East Point, Fairburn, Hapeville, Johns Creek, Milton, Mountain Park, Palmetto, Roswell, Sandy Springs, South Fulton and Union City.