



## FACTS ABOUT . . .

### **Wedgefield School water system**

The new Wedgefield School will open to students on August 15, 2016. There have been many questions about the water system for the site. Here are answers to some common questions:

#### **What sort of water system is OCPS installing at the school?**

The school district has built water lines that add a loop onto the existing water system, as well as a chlorination building and pump that will help disinfect water. These pipes and the “Tigerflow” water treatment system were built as part of an agreement with water provider Pluris, and will be turned over to them for operation and maintenance about the end of June.

#### **What filtration will occur on the school site?**

OCPS hired engineers and consulted with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to learn if additional charcoal filtration would be appropriate for this site. As part of this process, OCPS learned that installing such a filter would strip out the chlorine that will be added by the Tigerflow pump to help disinfect the water. That could allow bacteria to build up in the school's water. With this information, the district has decided not to add this filter. OCPS installs separate water filters for specific kitchen equipment due to hard water.

#### **How is this different than other schools?**

OCPS does not typically build a chlorination building and pump on school sites, nor are engineers typically hired to consider school water filtration plans. The district installs the same filters for kitchen equipment in all schools.

#### **What testing is being done on the school water, and what were the results?**

Each building at Wedgefield School has been tested for bacteria (coliform), a requirement of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The buildings all passed the screening test.

#### **How will we know the school water is safe?**

The water at schools is subject to the same DEP requirements as all other drinking water. The DEP has been working with Pluris to ensure that the drinking water in Wedgefield meets all requirements, and is tested quarterly. For more information on test results and Pluris' corrective actions, please visit

<http://dep.state.fl.us/central/home/wedgefield/>

#### **What is the water tank for?**

OCPS has built a water tank on school property that will be used to provide water flow to on-site fire hydrants. Additionally, irrigation will be provided by well water.

#### **When can we see inside the school?**

The community is welcome to visit the school during a Sneak Peek event on Wednesday, July 27, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

#### **What should I do if I have more questions?**

Contact Lauren Roth, OCPS Facilities Communications Manager, at 407-317-3774 or [lauren.roth@ocps.net](mailto:lauren.roth@ocps.net).