

## FAQs About the Robinson Water Filtration System

### When will the water at Robinson be safe to drink?

If all goes according to plan, we will begin installing our water filtration system in early November. By the start of second semester, we hope to have the system fully operational.

### What type of water filtration system is being installed?

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has approved the installation of an ion filtration system, designed by the environmental engineering firm Fishbeck Thompson Carr & Huber. This firm was recommended to GHAPS by EGLE for their expertise in water filtration systems.

### What is the approval and installation process?

Upon receipt for approval from EGLE, we received a permit for the system from the Ottawa County Health Department. On Monday, October 28, we will present details of the project at a special Board of Education meeting and request approval from our Board. This meeting will be held at 6:30 pm at Robinson Elementary. Parents and the community are invited to attend for extensive information about the system specifications, testing protocols and timelines.

Once our Board approves the project, we will order materials and have the system built and installed.

### What is the testing process?

When the water filtration system is installed, we will collect water samples and submit them for testing. In addition to testing for PFAS, we will test for all the usual chemicals, including lead and copper. When test results indicate our water is safe, we will turn on the filtration system.

## FAQs continued

### **Will you continue testing the water at Robinson to ensure the filtration system is working?**

Yes – our approval from EGLE stipulates extensive water testing to monitor alkalinity, calcium content, chloride content, conductivity, pH, sulfate content, temperature, lead content, copper content, and of course, PFAS. Both start-up and routine samples will be analyzed for the following PFAS compounds: PFNA, PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFBS, PFHxA and HPFO-DA (GEnX).

### **Will the new system filter all water at Robinson?**

Yes – this is not limited to drinking fountains. All water at Robinson will be filtered through our new system.

### **Why has this process taken so long?**

Since the discovery of PFAS in Robinson's water supply, GHAPS leadership has worked diligently with a variety of state and local agencies, as well as experts in water filtration systems, to develop the most effective solution. This involved extensive research and evaluation of different options before all involved parties were confident moving forward with our new system.

Ultimately, everyone involved in the project wants to make sure we are installing the very best system for our students and staff. We are thankful for the diligence of EGLE, who asked challenging and detailed questions, and for our environmental engineering firm, who answered those questions based on their expertise in the field. While the process has taken longer than anticipated, we remain committed to providing safe water at Robinson.

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

Join us for the special Board meeting on Monday, October 28 at 6:30 pm at Robinson Elementary for a detailed presentation on the water filtration system. If you would like more details but cannot attend the Board meeting, please contact Robinson Principal Jeffrey Marcus at 616.850.5900.