



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Clemens Heldmaier  
Montara Water and Sanitary  
District  
(650) 728-3545

**Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) Confirms  
Adequate Water System Protections Installed;  
Farallone View Elementary School Water Service Restored**

Montara, CA — Yesterday, Montara Water & Sanitary District (MWSD) restored water service to Farallone View Elementary School. Cabrillo Unified School District's contractor has installed a back flow device that addresses MWSD's initial concerns. Further work is needed to maintain the school's drinking water connection and MWSD staff are committed to support this work with additional flushing of the connection while work is scheduled.

Though site conditions are not ideal, we appreciate the community's focus on this critical public health issue and are pleased to confirm protection is now in place for our community.

Prior to this correction, our entire community water system was at risk of exposure to untreated drinking water due to cross connected pipes at the school site. MWSD has tested and certified the newly installed device, confirming it meets State and MWSD water code. We thank San Mateo County Health and Cabrillo Unified School District for working towards resolution of this issue and continuing their focus on safe conditions throughout the modernization work.

On Thursday, November 2, MWSD made the difficult decision to shut-off water service to the Farallone View campus given the grave plumbing conditions and cross connection concerns.

Cross connections can occur when drinking water pipes are connected to non-drinking water pipes or sources. These cross connections can allow untreated, non-potable water to enter our drinking water system. MWSD's water system is the sole source of drinking water for consumption and domestic use (cooking, dishwashing, handwashing, etc.) for 6,000 customers in Montara, Moss Beach and Pillar Ridge. As a critical public water provider, we cannot allow a cross connection condition to exist as it can permit untreated or contaminated water into our community's water system. Immediate action was required to install backflow prevention to protect our community water system.

MWSD has publicly approved and available ordinances to enforce State law and protect our critical public systems, along with plan review and permit application processes available to ensure new development, construction and renovation projects do not endanger the public systems that serve our community. All properties undergoing construction are required to submit their project for review to MWSD prior to construction. These are standard plumbing requirements common to all drinking water systems.

MWSD will continue to assist Farallone View Elementary School and the Cabrillo Unified School District (CUSD) in addressing additional water and sewer code requirements as the \$23.4 million Farallone View Modernization Project progresses.

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Montara Water and Sanitary District (MWSD) works every day to deliver water, garbage, and sewer services for the residents of Montara and Moss Beach. Over 6,000 residents rely on our services for their homes and businesses.