

Stay Hydrated
Stay Healthy



Howe Elementary Receives New Water Station from Delta Dental of Wisconsin Foundation Cool Water Program™

Students and staff at Howe Elementary have a new fixture installed in the building for the 2019-2020 school year. Through the Delta Dental of Wisconsin Foundation's inaugural "Cool Water Program," 20 schools throughout the state, including Howe, received a dual water bottle filling station and fountain, along with toothbrushes and water bottles for all students (330 of them!) and staff. This new program promotes water consumption throughout the school day when students utilize the dual water bottle filling station.

Installation was completed this fall at Howe, and students are able to easily access filtered water during the school day. Delta Dental of Wisconsin employees were onsite on November 25 to deliver water bottles and toothbrushes to the students and staff at Howe Elementary.

Selection for the awardees was based on the most creative and sustainable implementation plans to encourage children to drink more water. Awardees also needed to be in a district with a high free and reduced meal rate, and have fluoridated water.

Drinking water, especially fluoridated water, helps reduce cavities and protects precious tooth enamel by washing away harmful bacteria. More than 50% of children and teens in the U.S. are not properly hydrated, which causes other health issues.

Howe Elementary students participated in a video infomercial regarding the care and use of the machine, and created posters stressing the importance of water consumption and offering suggestions for water intake. Students were very excited to begin using their water bottles and trying them out at the new filling station. Howe Principal Tina Miller stated, "We appreciate Delta Dental's commitment to provide these unique opportunities for schools to enhance ways to promote the importance of drinking plenty of water while stressing good oral health."

"The Delta Dental of Wisconsin Foundation is passionate about making a difference for Wisconsin's oral health," said Megan Tenpas, the Foundation's community outreach specialist. "Making sure our youth have access to fluoridated drinking water is an important step in creating good lifelong habits and keeping their teeth healthy."

Congratulations to Howe students and staff!

