



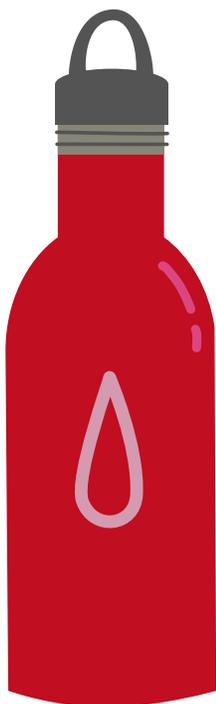
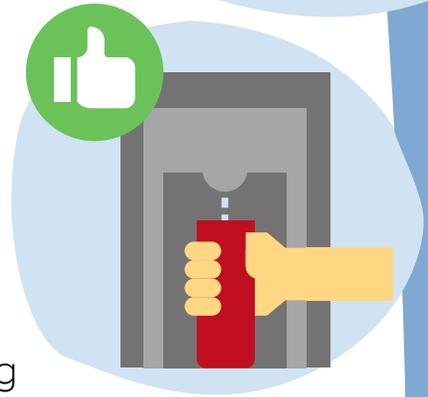
American
Heart
Association.

Q: WHAT IS THE GERMIEST THING IN A SCHOOL?

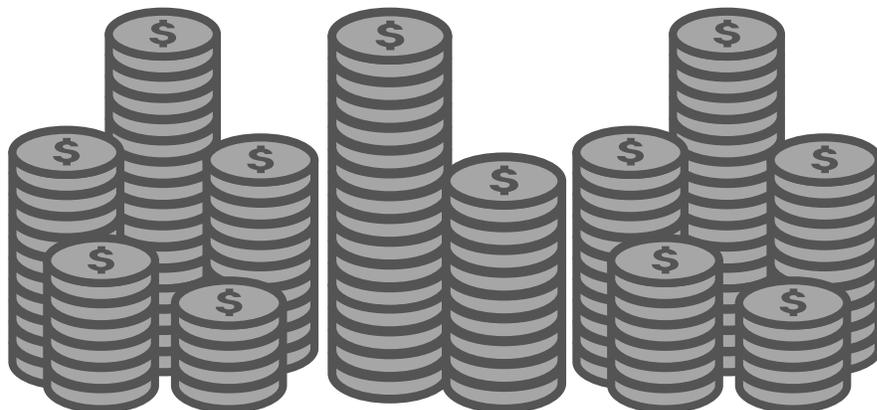
A: THE WATER FOUNTAIN!

During these unprecedented times, water bottle filling stations and personal water bottles may help reduce the spread of germs and disease.

- Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the CDC now encourages staff and students to bring their own water to minimize use and touching of water fountains.
- In one study, water fountains and manual pencil sharpener handles were determined to be the **germiest surfaces in classrooms.**



The cost of a water refill station compared to a water fountain is nominal in the process of construction, and can save dollars over time.



WATER REFILL STATIONS FOR HEALTHIER MISSISSIPPI STUDENTS

Water access is hugely important for students during this stage in life.

- Mississippi ranks **number two in the nation** for the highest rate of obesity among children 10 to 17. Drinking sufficient amounts of water reduces the likelihood of kids being at an unhealthy weight.
- Water bottle filling stations in schools can nearly triple how much water students drink at lunch time. Drinking water can also positively impact children’s cognitive performance, particularly their short-term memory.

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— “ —
During a time when so many have concerns about the new school year, anything we can do to reduce students’ exposure to germs should absolutely be a part of discussions and plans.
— ” —

Rep. Kent McCarty

*Mississippi House of Representatives,
District 101*

— “ —
Water is critical to a child’s overall health. Not sugary drinks. Water. But for many Mississippi children, drinking water is not a part of their day, nor is it available to them. And a passing sip in the hallway is not enough.
— ” —

Jennifer Goodwin

*Registered Nurse,
Lamar County School District*

Put water within reach for Mississippi students.

Healthy living + reduced exposure to germs -- help make carrying water bottles the new normal in public schools. And make them easier to refill!

yourethecure.org/ms-water-access



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Heart
Association.**