Dear Superintendent,

World Plumbing Day is an international event on March 11 initiated by the World Plumbing Council as a means of celebrating the important role plumbing plays in the health and safety of modern society. We know that children have a significant impact on their family’s perception of water usage, so we wanted to actively engage their perception of plumbing and encourage their creativity.

The aftermath of 2010’s devastating earthquake in Haiti and last year’s tsunami in Japan reveals how easy it is to take for granted the availability of safe drinking water and sufficient sanitation systems — until those systems cease to function properly. History shows that great leaps in humankind’s advancement — both physically and socially — have been tied to advances in plumbing technology. We would like you help in bringing a better understanding of the largely misunderstood role plumbers play in keeping folks safe and healthy each and every day.

The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) is a proud associate of the organization behind World Plumbing Day. IAPMO members have since 1926 dedicated themselves to public health and safety through the development of safe plumbing and mechanical codes — the Uniform Plumbing Code and the California Plumbing Code among the various state regulations our association produces.

To increase the interest and excitement in World Plumbing Day, we are enclosing a pdf link to downloadable educational materials (including a short, fun introductory video) and World Plumbing Council poster design contest details that are being made available to schools nationwide in commemoration of this important day. The children submit their promotional posters on the theme “Plumbing Moves Society Forward” with their name, grade level, teacher’s name, school name and address. The prize is sent to the school for the winning student.

The safety and abundance of drinking water is, of course, a concern for most people all over the world, but what is not often emphasized is the work the plumbing industry contributes every day to alleviate these concerns.

Can we count on your assistance in encouraging the principals and social studies/history teachers within your school district to participate in the celebration by deducing 15-20 minutes of the school day on March 11 to lead their students through this educational exercise? (A message to principals/teachers is available here.) We are certain it will be time well spent for the students and enhance their understanding of the world in which they live.

We look forward to seeing your students’ participation in this worthwhile event. For more information, please direct your Web browser to www.worldplumbingday.org.

Sincerely,

Russ Chaney
CEO, The IAPMO Group