

September 13, 2017

Regarding the placement of cellular phone towers on school property in the Hempfield School District, I am concerned regarding the unknown effects of this amount of electromagnetic radiation so close to children. Numerous countries have placed limits on placement of these towers near schools. Some have banned them completely. The science is still evolving and there is some early evidence to suggest that the developing brains of children are at greater risk as they absorb much more of this electromagnetic radiation than adults. Industry support of studies showing no significant harm is worrisome. In reviewing other contracts Verizon has made with schools to place towers on their property, the \$1000-\$2000 per year a school may gain to their budget does not (in my opinion) make a significant reduction in school debt such that this would be worth the potential harm to children.

I worry the Hempfield School District is taking an unknown risk regarding the health of the children and families they serve for minimal financial benefit.

Perhaps working with families and business leaders to come up with alternative means of generating revenue for the district would be a safer and financially greater solution to the issue of decreased school district revenue and increased costs.

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