American Academy of Environmental Medicine

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April 22, 2013

To: Tony Pontes
Director of Education
Peel District School Board

From: The American Academy of Environmental Medicine
www.aaemonline.org

The American Academy of Environmental Medicine (AAEM) strongly supports the use of wired Internet connections.

The AAEM comprises Medical Doctors, Osteopaths, and PhD researchers focusing on the effects of environmental agents on human health. For forty years the Academy has trained Physicians to treat the most difficult patients who are often overlooked by our medical system, because the cause of their illness, rather than being caused by an infection or traditionally understood cause, is related to more basic underlying causes such as chemical, toxic metal, food or radiation exposures.

In May 2011 the World Health Organization elevated exposure to wireless radiation, including WiFi, onto the Class 2b list of Carcinogens.

There is consistent emerging science that shows people, especially children who are more vulnerable due to developing brains and thinner skulls, are affected by the increasing exposure to wireless radiation.

In September 2010, the Journal of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine-Fertility and Sterility, reported that only four hours of exposure to a standard laptop using WiFi caused DNA damage to human sperm.

In December 2012 the American Academy of Pediatrics- representing 60,000 pediatricians, wrote to Congress requesting it update the safety levels of microwave radiation exposure especially for children and pregnant women.

In 2010 Canada's Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health heard three days of testimony from international scientists explaining why our national safety guideline (Safety Code 6) is out of date for the increasing exposure to wireless radiation in daily life. This guideline must not be enforced as the minimum standard for places where children spend long periods of time.

In a school setting, children are exposed to WiFi for an unprecedented period of time for their entire childhood. Some of these signals will be much more powerful

than is received at home, due to the need for the signals to go through walls, and serve multiple computers simultaneously. At home families may chose to turn it off, or avoid wireless completely. The school signals are dozens of times more powerful than standard café and restaurant systems.

To install this widespread wireless internet access system in Peel District schools risks a widespread public health hazard that the medical system is not yet prepared to address. Statistics show that you can expect to see an immediate reaction in 3% and delayed effects in 30%, including teachers.

It is better to exercise caution and substitute with a safe alternate such as a wired connection, which is not classified as a possible carcinogen. While more research is being conducted children must be protected. Wired technology is not only safer, it is also stronger and more secure.

While the debate ensues about the dangers of WiFi, cell phone towers and cell phones, it is the doctors who must deal with the inevitable health effects. Until we can determine why some develop symptoms and others do not, and some are debilitated for indeterminate amounts of time, we implore you to not take this risk, with the health of so many children whose parents have entrusted you to keep them as safe as possible while at school.

Respectfully,

The Executive Committee of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine

Cc: Janet McDougald,
Chair, Peel District School Board.