

CELL TOWERS NEAR SCHOOLS

SCHOOL CELL TOWER SETBACKS

Many communities have policies, ordinances or zoning that ensures cellular antennas are restricted to a specific minimum distance from schools. Hempstead, New York requires a special use permit for cell towers near schools.

Examples of cell tower/4G/5G small cell setbacks/preferred placements for schools:

- Palo Alto, California: 1,500 feet
- Copake, New York :1500 feet
- Los Altos , California: 500 feet
- Walnut City, California: 1,500 feet
- Bar Harbor, Maine: 1,500 feet
- Sallisaw, Oklahoma: 1,500 feet
- Shelbourne , Massachusetts: 1,500 feet
- Stockbridge, Massachusetts: 1,500 feet
- Encinitas California:500 feet
- Scarsdale New York: 500 feet
- Ithaca, New York: 250 feet

CELL TOWERS REMOVED

- Milpitas California: School Board asked Crown Castle and T-Mobile to relocate the cell tower to remote location.
- Ripon California: Sprint moved the cell tower at elementary after students and staff developed cancer and parents argued children should not be guinea pigs.
- Alameda California cancelled cell tower contracts.
- Dekalb County Georgia dropped school tower plan.
- A Tarrytown New York tower was removed after residents protested placement near a public housing complex and playground.

SCHOOL BOARDS

- [Palo Alto Unified School District Cell Tower](#)
- Resolution supports the City 1,500 setback and opposes cell tower "on or in close proximity to schools to ensure individuals, especially children, are protected from the potential negative effects associated with radiation exposure."
- [West Linn-Wilsonville Oregon School Board prohibits cell towers on school property.](#)
- Vancouver School Boards Resolution: 1,000 feet
- [Greenbelt Maryland Council](#) voted to oppose school towers.



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

- 3 resolutions opposing cell towers on school property.
- The District Office of Health and Safety developed a "cautionary level" for radiofrequency radiation 10,000 times lower than FCC regulations because, *"it is believed that a more conservative level is necessary to protect children, who represent a potentially vulnerable and sensitive population."*

SCHOOL BOARDS THAT REVERSED COURSE

- Temecula Valley Unified School District passed a resolution banning new cell towers.
- Montgomery County Maryland Schools has a policy no to allow any more cell towers on elementary schools.
- Prince George's County Maryland School Board decided not to renew a cell tower construction master leasing agreement that had allowed over 70 schools to be marketed as cell tower sites.
- Portland Oregon Schools ended new leases for cell towers.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS OPPOSE CELL TOWERS

Silver Spring, Maryland



CONEJO PTA WANTS CELL TOWER MOVED **Op-ed in Thousand Oaks Acorn Journal**

The California PTA advocates on behalf of children and families. They advocate against electromagnetic field radiation your schools.

The Conejo PTA urges the use of the precautionary principle in making decisions regarding public health this means if something cannot be proven to be safe it is best to avoid exposure. Most people don't realize that the 1996 FCC state standards for safe levels of omission was actually based on a level set by the American national standards institute in 1982. Well this standard has not been changed in 30 years it has usurped all local authority."

"For this reason, Conejo Council PTA made up of 9000 parents and teachers has decided to take action. We're calling on our local leaders to put in place policies that would ensure parents are notified when cell towers are propose near schools and then encourage a buffer zone around schools."

-Kim Huber, legislative chair of the Conejo Council PTA.

PACIFIC GROVE (CA) PTAs

- Forest Grove Elementary Pacific Grove Middle School and Pacific Grove High School PTAs sent a letter to City Council opposing a high school cell tower.

NEW YORK STATE PTA **-Adopted TWO Resolutions 2014**

"CELLULAR PHONE TOWERS – 2014 (R-'07, R-'00); Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support legislation that would encourage local communities, including parents and school officials, to regulate the placement of cell towers and cell tower antennas particularly in schools and areas where children congregate,

and be it further Resolved that the New York State PTA support continued research into the long-term effects of radio frequency and microwave frequencies on humans especially as they apply to children, and be it further Resolved that the New York State PTA seek to educate parents and school officials as to the current debate over the placement of cell towers and antennas."

NEELSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL PTA (MD)

- Voted to oppose proposed cell tower.
- Hosted parent information session with both the cell tower company and Environmental Health Trust.

HILLSMERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA (MD)

- Sent letters to the school board in opposition to cell towers near the school.

BRIARLAKE ELEMENTARY (GA)

- Voted to oppose cell tower after board approved towers on schools.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

LETTER ON CELL TOWER

Agenda No. 11A, Attachment B
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August 6, 2018

Pacific Grove City Council
City Hall
300 Forest Ave.
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Dear members of Pacific Grove City Council,

I am writing you on behalf of Pacific Grove High School PTA in regard to the Pacific Grove Planning Commission's vote on July 26, 2018, which approved a request by Verizon Wireless to install and maintain a cell tower adjacent to Pacific Grove High School (PGHS). For the reasons described below, the Pacific Grove High School PTA **is strongly opposed** to the location of the Verizon cell tower and is requesting that the City Council consider and support the appeal that is being filed by a group of concerned parents who live in Pacific Grove and send their children to PG schools.

The installment of a cell tower adjacent to PGHS poses significant potential health dangers to both students and staff at PGHS. While some argue that radiation emitted from a cell tower is not a health danger, data from many studies indicate the opposite. Research shows that children and pregnant women are the most vulnerable – two demographics most likely to be on PGHS school grounds on a regular basis. The actual placement of the cell tower – near the back of PGHS and very close to Forest Grove Elementary School – only increases the concerns of the frequency in exposure.

Cell towers also pose a risk to students due to fire hazard. Many cell towers throughout the United States have caught fire and collapsed, posing a significant safety concern, especially in an area with young students walking to and from school every day.

The mission of all PTAs nationwide is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. Our local PTA is very active in expressing our support for or opposition to issues dealing with the health, safety, education, or general well-being of children and youth in our community.

The members of the Pacific Grove High School PTA strongly urge you to please reconsider the Pacific Grove Planning Commission's previous vote and rescind approval for the Verizon cell tower at Pacific Grove High School.

Sincerely,

Julie Kavanaugh
President, Pacific Grove High School PTA