



December 10, 2024

Attention

Dave Jones, Regional Executive Director of Education AVRCE

Paul Hanson, Avon View High School Principal

Donna MacMillan, Avon View High School Interim Vice-Principal

Doug Jackson, Avon View High School Vice-Principal

Ashley Connors, Avon View High School Vice-Principal

Sent electronically to: dave.jones@avrec.ca; paul.hanson@avrce.ca; donna.macmillan@avrec.ca; doug.jackson@avrec.ca; ashley.connors@avrec.ca

RE: Installing a fence along the perimeter of Avon View High School property to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students who attend the school and neighbouring properties.

Please accept the following letter on behalf of the West Hants Regional Municipality (WHRM) and its' Council regarding safety concerns for students attending Avon View High School and neighbouring properties.

During the November 12th, 2024 meeting, correspondence was received from a residential property owner expressing concern for student safety, trespassing and frustration towards the lack of response received related to their concerns raised.

Avon View High School is located off Payzant Drive in Windsor, West Hants and home to approximately 1000 students. With increased development near the school, residents have voiced safety concerns as students continue to access the school through heavy construction zones and private residential properties.

Despite the installation of private property signs and residents informing students to not access the school through these private residential properties, many students continue to disregard signage and requests, which have led to a number of verbal confrontations, near misses and phone calls to the RCMP. It is our hope that through this correspondence the Regional Center of Education will take the next steps to address these concerns and alleviate further conflicts.

It is important that schools are a safe place for children to learn, play and grow. A well-placed fence

provides many benefits to students, staff and neighbouring properties. It can help define boundaries and foster a sense of community and belonging among students and act as a safety mechanism. A proper fence allows people who belong at the school to access the grounds and prevents those people who don't from being able enter.

It is our belief that until a proper fence is erected around the school property these concerns will only continue. As representatives for the West Hants Regional Municipality, we respectfully request the Regional Center of Education consider the installation of a fence around the school property as a next step to alleviate safety concerns and trespassing on private residential properties.

To formally express the current position of the Council who met on November 26th, 2024, to discuss this matter the following motion was ratified.

"COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO DRAFT A LETTER TO THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY REGIONAL CENTER OF EDUCATION REGARDING INSTALLATION OF A FENCE AROUND THE SCHOOL PROPERTY TO ADDRESS SAFETY CONCERNS FOR STUDENTS."

West Hants Regional Municipality thanks you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to further discussions and a collaborative approach that addresses the need for a fence.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abraham Zebian', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Abraham Zebian, Mayor

ds/az

CC: West Hants Regional Municipal Council
Chief Administrative Officer, Mark Phillips