

Dear Matt,

I am the co-Chair of the School Council at Lord Roberts French Immersion Public School at Maitland and Princess.

We recently learned that we will no longer have a crossing guard at Central and Maitland. We would like to challenge this decision for a number of reasons:

- 1) Our school has been encouraging kids to walk to school and are planning an active and safe route study through Block Parent. Currently we have three Walking School Buses, two of which cross Central at Waterloo or Colborne. I'm sure if numbers were justification for a crossing guard, we can adjust the one route to cross at Maitland so more students will walk that intersection.
- 2) We feel the loss of this person at the Central intersection might impact parents' comfort with their children walking or biking to school. Central is quite busy in the morning and there is heavy traffic on Maitland. The crossing guard there has witnessed several cars that do not stop at the stops signs.
- 3) With the upcoming French Immersion boundary changes we expect more students to walk from Old North to Lord Roberts, as busing for out of area students is not longer offered after 2015.
- 4) With the closing of Lorne Ave. Public School, the Woodfield community students will be reassigned to St. George's Public School. So there will be more kids walking north to that school.
- 5) Also we are wondering why there is no crossing guard at Princess and Maitland? That is a 4-way stop and **very** crowded int the morning with 6 buses, kids, and cars. We requested a study in March, but have not heard back.

Safe routes are important to encouraging families to chose to walk or bike to school. Just about every piece of communication a parent reads emphasizes that kids need to be more active. If numbers are the criteria, then let's see if we can boost numbers! Use it as an opportunity to get more kids out of cars and walking!

Many thanks for your time and attention to this!

Regards,
Kate Rapson

Co-Chair
Lord Roberts School Council