

From: Sheryl Sdao

Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 3:08 PM

To: PEC <pec@london.ca>

Cc: Squire, Phil <psquire@london.ca>; Lehman, Steve <slehman@london.ca>; Hopkins, Anna <ahopkins@london.ca>; Lewis, Shawn <slewis@london.ca>; Hillier, Steven <shillier@london.ca>;

Morgan, Josh <joshmorgan@london.ca>

Subject: Sir Arthur Currie PS- PLANNING NEW SCHOOL

To Whom it may concern.

I would like to take a moment to address the current situation at Sir Arthur Currie Public School on the city's North west side.

I have 2 children who attend the school, who are in grades K2 and Grade 4. My oldest daughter has been attending SAC since it opened its doors 4 years ago, we also live in the neighbourhood (main incoming street of foxfield, Foxwood Ave), where we have resided since 2008. I have seen the impact that the over crowding of the school has not only had on my oldest child, but also on our neighbourhood. Not only is safety a major concern to the amount of traffic coming through our neighbourhood (at very undesirable speeds) with our school being filled to double our capacity the amount of cars flying up and down our roads is not something we should have to "deal" with. Another major issue is the fact that our children are being used as an experiment in how much longer our school can handle the embarrassment of being sent to one of the 22 portables currently housing as many children inside the school as outside the school. If my 9 year old student could tell you herself she would, so instead I will use her words that I hear daily since starting back at school and being a 9 year old subject to being in a portable, using a porta-potty for her washroom facility and being placed in what SHOULD be the staff parking lot. The thing I most commonly hear from her is "I don't feel like I am a part of the school.", "I don't feel like it's my school", "when winter comes I have to put on my winter coat and boots to go to the bathroom?!". Why on earth should any child feel like they are not a part of their school? They shouldn't. While I understand you are not responsible for the size of the school that was built when planning, I ask that you take a hard look at the situation that our children, as well as our staff, that are having to deal with the every day fallout in a school that is frankly an embarrassment to look at as well as a major safety concern! Daily traffic problems around our roads, no parking available(making it impossible for people living in our neighbourhood to get out of their driveway during school drop offs and pick ups), walking is not safe when our roads were not built to take the amount of daily traffic whipping around our streets. I ask that for the safety of everyone, I ask that for the well-being of our children (who have already been dealt SO much), that you consider having the timeline, in order to approve a new school for building, shortened to start no later than 2 years. It's sad to say the current timeline of 4-8 years is just too long when our school is already bursting. If it's the minimum of 4 years, my oldest will never get to be back inside of her school again, instead she will be off to high school. I want her to be able to have a school experience, attend assemblies with the rest of the school, use a proper bathroom...because she's not a construction worker and deserves a bathroom that is inside the school that she doesn't have to wait to use for 20 minutes. I want her to feel like she belongs in her own school again. I don't want my 5 year old to face these same feelings and issues if the proposed timelines take 4-8 years. I want them to be able to walk to school (with or without me as they get older) without

fear of the traffic...they may as well be crossing at a major intersection. Portables are fine, for now....but they can't be the solution for the next 4-8 years. That's not a school. Our amazing teachers and staff are doing the very best they can with what they have to deal with, but I ask kindly, Please consider taking a look into how this effects our neighbourhood, our children as a whole, if you have children or not. We can't take another 4-8 years of this. It just won't do.

I ask that you take what you need from my e-mail to be included on the agenda for Monday's meeting.

If you should have any questions or need to speak with me, I can be reached through my email or by phone.

I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Sdao