



LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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School Committee

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May 18, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

The LPS School Committee seeks detailed confirmation that the Community Center Building Committee and ICON Architects will satisfy our concerns as they develop proposals for building and renovating part of the Ballfield Road campus.

The School Committee appreciates our collaborative relationship with our current Ballfield Road neighbor, the Town's Parks and Recreation Department (PRD), and we anticipate benefits of bringing Human Services and Public Health resources on campus.

At the same time, the School Committee's primary concern must be for the safe and smooth operation of Lincoln's Preschool through Grade 8 education, extended-day and summer programs. We have the responsibility of assuring the school community – both school families and employees – that children's education and safety remain the Town's priority in any plans for redevelopment or renovation on the Ballfield Road campus.

We appreciate ICON and CCBC efforts to include citizen concerns in the planning process. This is critical as much has changed on campus since previous Community Center studies including the Lincoln School being renovated and reconfigured and the COVID-19 pandemic altering communication and transportation patterns.

Although it is quite likely that you are already considering the items below, it is still important that we ask you to address our concerns which are as follows:

1. Campus Safety And Security:

- a. Vehicular Traffic Studies and Site Plans that minimize interaction between drivers and pedestrians/bikes: particularly risks of older drivers on a child-centered campus. Design elements which would address these concerns include:
 - i. Separate parking lot for COA activities
 - ii. Separate bike/pedestrian paths from roads
 - iii. Separate two way access off of Lincoln Road to the community center

2. Drop-off and pick-up congestion

- a. Site plans and programming arrangements that promote ways to avoid any added traffic on Ballfield Road during regular school arrival and departure times and when arrival and dismissal times are changed due to weather or other issues.

- b. Site plans and programming arrangements that enable scheduling traffic and parking to prioritize school events, including curriculum nights, athletic and arts events, as well as professional development and education collaborative programs, etc.
- 3. Impacts on employee and school visitor access and parking
- 4. Making clear to residents/voters the potential additional costs that are not included in the estimates for the Community Center – such as: upgrading existing roads/paths, upgrading security, communications, and septic, restoring playgrounds and fencing, and additional insurance premiums.

Sincerely,

John MacLachlan
School Committee Chair