

From: [Karen Matthews](#)
To: [Karen Matthews](#)
Subject: FW: Elementary School Safety
Date: January 14, 2022 1:49:28 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Katharine Iannidinardo <>
Sent: January 14, 2022 11:02 AM
To: leonard.krog@nanaimo.ca; Charlene Mckay <Charlene.Mckay@sd68.bc.ca>; Christine Bohm <cbohmsd68.bc.ca>
Subject: Elementary School Safety

Dear Leonard Krog and Charlene McKay

School grounds and playground safety issues seem to be resurfacing again and Ecole Pauline Haarer. This week at school some children came across a pile of discarded syringes while playing outside at recess. My eight year old daughter was asked by the EA who was on recess duty that day, to go up to the office and get the yellow bucket and some plastic gloves so that the needles could be cleaned. The EA cleaned up the needles and as far as I know, nobody was hurt.

Mayor Krog you may remember my husband, Domenico Iannidinardo, and I coming into your office to talk with you about the safety issues at Ecole Pauline Haarer a few years ago. Domenico also made a presentation to city council about the safety issues at our school. At the time, the City of Nanaimo gave the school night security to keep the homeless and drug addicted out of school and Comox Park grounds. This kept the homeless from camping out at night and using drugs in the school children's learning and playing areas.

Given the addiction and homeless crisis Nanaimo is in right now, I cannot for the life of me figure out why the school grounds as well as the Comox Park grounds cannot be kept completely private for the elementary school children of Ecole Pauline Haarer only. Those grounds must be child safe zones and the rest of the city can be for public use.

Our principal from last year, Shanon Apland, did an amazing job at keeping our school safe. She went above and beyond her job description to protect school and park grounds including early morning walk arounds. As much as I very much appreciated what she did for our school I realized that it is not up to the principal to be school security.

So what am I asking for?

I would like the return of night security at our school to keep night time drug activity and camping out of the park and school grounds I would like to keep the day security that we already have.

School security at Ecole Pauline Haarer is a shared responsibility between the City of Nanaimo and the School District 68. They both need to work cooperatively together. The City has to understand that its homelessness and drug issues are affecting the public schools and School Board has to understand that it is its job to keep kids safe at school. I would be nice to spend our funds on new playgrounds like at Ecole Quarterway, but that is frivolous spending considering the crisis of the times we are in.

I am willing have an in-person or zoom meeting to discuss these issue further

Sincerely

Kate Iannidinardo

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