

eComment  
Ordinance 2020-41

**Amanda Campbell**

Location:

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If these include any cell towers put on or near schools, I oppose.

Dear Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members,

I am writing regarding the emerging risks associated with wireless antennas (cell phone towers) being installed on or near school buildings in Alaska. These antennas emit high levels of radio-frequency (RF) microwave wireless radiation to which students, teachers and staff are exposed throughout the day. The installation of 5G enabled antennas increases the risks even more and has never been tested for long-term human safety.

Over the past several decades, independent researchers have published thousands of peer reviewed scientific studies documenting serious adverse health impacts from exposure to wireless radiation, ranging from neurological and behavioral problems to cancer. According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), children absorb up to 10 times more wireless radiation in the bone marrow of the skull compared to adults due to their thinner skulls and higher brain conductivity.

Teachers and staff who are pregnant, or may become pregnant, are also at a high risk from wireless radiation exposure. In a 2012 study, researchers at Yale University found that the offspring of exposed lab animals had abnormal brain development and exhibited all the symptoms of attention deficit disorder (ADHD).

Telecommunication companies claim their antennas and other wireless equipment meet all Federal Communications Commission (FCC) exposure guidelines, and that may be true, but the guidelines themselves are 25 years out of date, and are not designed to protect children. In 2013, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) complained to the FCC that its exposure limits do not account for the unique physiological vulnerabilities of children, nor do they reflect current use patterns of wireless devices.

The lack of federal guidance on protecting children and the public from exposure to wireless radiation leaves school board and administrators with the responsibility to do whatever possible to ensure that our children, teachers and staff are safe in the increasingly wireless world.

I know that you share my concern for the safety, health and well being of everyone in our schools, and I urge you to vigorously oppose any effort to place wireless antennas on or near our schools. There have been a few schools that after seeing a rise in cancer rates in their students and staff have successfully lobbied and had cell phone towers removed from their schools. Is it really worth putting our most vulnerable population at risk?

Thanks for your time,  
Amanda Campbell