



Walkerton District Community School

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August 30, 2019

Re: Smoking concern at Intersection of Hinks Street and Fischer Dairy Road, Walkerton

Dear Ms. Hamilton,

I received your letter dated August 27th, 2019 with regards to Council concerns about smoking/vaping on Fischer Dairy Road and Hinks Street, as a follow up to our meeting on August 19th, 2019.

I would like to reiterate what we shared at the meeting on August 19th. We are unable to direct our students about where they can go when they are off the school property at break times. As I said at the time, we will continue to educate them about the law with respect to smoking on WDCS property and about the health implications of smoking and vaping. We will also encourage them not to all gather in the same place, wherever that may be. However, we cannot direct them not to smoke/vape on Fischer Dairy Road and Hinks Street.

Your letter has asked that I direct the students to the small parkette identified on the map you attached, at the corner of Cemetery Road and Yonge Street. As stated before, I cannot direct students about where they can go when they are off school property. I also cannot encourage my students to go to the corner of Cemetery Road and Yonge Street because although there is space there that meets the 20 metre requirement, it is directly outside our Kindergarten to grade 8 playground fence and will require that secondary students walk along either one side or the other of that fence to get to the designated location. This creates a potential safety situation for my elementary students.

As I said at the August 19th meeting, we will encourage our students to clean up their litter and keep the area clean wherever they are. I will also remind the secondary students that they are to avoid exposing elementary students to smoking/vaping, something our secondary students have been very respectful about up to this point.

If there are further questions, I would be happy to meet again to discuss the situation.

Sincerely,

Sarah Slater
Principal
Walkerton District Community School
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cc: Grey Bruce Health Unit Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Ian Arra I.Arra@publichealthgreybruce.ca.
South Bruce OPP Detachment Commander, Krista Miller krista.miller@opp.ca.