

Portland Public Schools

Assuring that all students are learning for their future

Harrison Lyseth Elementary School
Administration

Lenore M. Williams, Principal

Peter McCormack, Asst. Principal

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Dear Chair Boepple and Members of the Portland Planning Board:

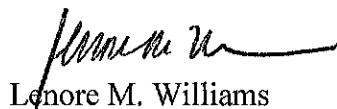
It is with great enthusiasm that I support the proposal you have before you for Project #2017-202, 171 Auburn Street. Traffic flow and parking have been an on going concern on the Moore-Lyseth campus. Also a concern is the increase we have seen in both vehicle and pedestrian traffic on both campus' over recent years. Community members can and do access the campus from a various locations, most notably traffic enters from the main entrance on Auburn Street but also enters on Bartley Avenue and Junior Street. This scenario always presents challenges and safety concerns during our morning arrivals and afternoon dismissals.

Improvements to circulation and parking will dramatically decrease the likelihood of an incident where student (pedestrian) traffic is in conflict with buses and cars. Having clearly designated traffic loops (one for buses-nearest the school) and a second loop for passenger cars will substantially improve safety for both pedestrians and motorists.

I was particularly encouraged that thought and consideration has been given to improve crosswalks (Junior Street and Washington Ave. Ext.) and to increase crossing guard support at Allen Avenue and Bramblewood/Virginia. In my nearly 11 years as Principal of Lyseth Elementary School, I have lost count of the number of times I have received calls from concerned parents and community members regarding safety issues for students centered around the need for better delineated/defined crosswalks and sidewalks in addition to more crossing guard staff at key points/locations.

I am most appreciative of the time and effort that has been put into this plan by Mr. Onos and Consultants Rice and Guethle. The need is great and the time is now for the recommended improvements.

Sincerely,



Lenore M. Williams

Principal, Lyseth Elementary School



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