## **Village Of Calumet Administrator**

From:

Christopher Davidson <cdavidson@clkschools.org>

Sent: To: Thursday, June 04, 2020 12:55 PM Village Of Calumet Administrator

Subject:

**Public Hearing** 

To Whom it May Concern,

I plan to attend this evening's virtual meeting to speak on behalf of the Public Schools of Calumet, Laurium & Keweenaw. Here are some of my points of concern that will shared:

- 1. Image This has been a challenge from the first day I started my career with CLK Schools and it continues today. If families have to drive or even walk past a marihuana establishment on their way to tour the school we will have a very difficult time overcoming that image and convincing prospective students/families of the quality education available at CLK Schools. Our current conditions make it difficult enough as it is. I do not believe this will help.
- 2. A Michigan statute states it is a crime to sell marijuana within 1,000 feet from school property. MCL 333.7410(2); MCL 333.7410(3); 333.7212(2) (stating that "Marihuana, including pharmaceutical-grade cannabis, is a schedule 2 controlled substance").
- 3. Federal law also states that distributing or growing marijuana within 1,000 feet of real property comprising a school is illegal. 21 U.S.C. § 860. Federal law does not recognize recreational marijuana, and state law would not protect a violator from prosecution under federal law. 21 U.S.C. § 811(d). Accordingly, it would be a federal violation for marihuana establishment to operate within 1,000 feet of school property.

I understand that there could be economic benefits to supporting such business in our village. I, as much as anyone else, would love to see more occupied buildings operated by business owners capable of creating beautiful storefronts (such as Copper World, Keweenaw Coffee Works, Cafe Rosetta...) and destinations for tourists and local residents to visit, enjoy, and benefit from. More local businesses can also mean more internship opportunities for the students of CLK. However, I do not believe marihuana establishments would achieve either of these. I am all for more businesses occupying some of our vacant buildings and making some needed renovations to our village. Maybe businesses like this could accomplish this, and if so I at least plead that village ordinance maintain the 1.000 foot proximity from school property.

Sincerely, Chris Davidson

## Christopher M. Davidson

Superintendent
Public Schools of Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw
57070 Mine St.
Calumet, MI 49913
P - 906-337-0311
F - 906-337-1406
www.clkschools.org

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