

Questions for Mayor Lisa Helps from EMJS Parents

1. Do you have any updates/thoughts on traffic calming measures that might be undertaken around EMJS (e.g., along Fairfield between Richmond and Foul Bay, Chandler and Richmond intersection)? We met with one of the City's Transportation Technologists (Nick Armstrong) and did our own traffic counts, but it seems like this area might be a low priority unless there is an accident! (see attached correspondence and results)
 - a. We contacted Kimberley Stratford about the Neighbourhood Grant program - she was the one who directed us to Nick.
 - b. We also met with the Ray Straatsma from the Placemaking Network - he suggested new signage in high traffic areas - perhaps made by students.
2. Related to the previous question, do you have thoughts on how the City can work with Saanich and the District of Oak Bay (and possibly the CRD who run the Active and Safe Routes to School program) to improve safe transportation routes (cycling and transit) between EMJS and Lansdowne Middle School (proposed new catchment middle school)?
3. What do you think is the best way to pursue partnerships with BC Transit to improve routes and subsidize or provide free transit passes for students (for field trips as well as traveling to/from school, especially middle school and high school)?
4. Do you have an update on the status of the continuation of the Chandler pathway across the school field?
5. When you met with us last year, we talked a bit about the impact of the proposed densification in Fairfield on our school - do you have any updates for us on that? How will enrollment at EMJS be affected with the proposed densification?
6. Do you have thoughts on how recent property tax assessments will affect SD61's ability to attract and retain staff? In recent years, we have lost a number of EMJS teachers to other districts with more affordable housing. Similarly, availability of affordable housing may also limit the District's ability to attract new teachers (particularly French immersion teachers).
7. To follow-up on another item we discussed at our last meeting, do you have any further thoughts on specific ways to engage our students in community development and municipal government in 2019?
8. Do you think there are opportunities for the City to partner with school district to improve recycling and waste management in Victoria schools?
9. Can you comment on the police liaison program and whether it might return to Victoria schools, in future?