

Martin Blank, PhD
Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics
Columbia University
New York, NY 10032

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Mr. Thomas McKean, President, Board of Trustees
Mr. James Shay, President-Elect, Board of Trustees
Fay School
48 Main Street
Southborough, MA01772

To the Board of Trustees,

It has been brought to my attention that school children have become symptomatic at your school after installation of WiFi. I am writing to express my concern and to encourage you to review the independent science on this matter.

I can say with conviction, in light of the science, and in particular in light of the cellular and DNA science, which has been my focus at Columbia University for several decades, putting radiating antennas in schools (and in close proximity to developing children) is an uninformed choice. Assurances that the antennas are within 'FCC guidelines' is meaningless today, given that it is now widely understood that the methodology used to assess exposure levels only accounts for one type of risk from antennas, the thermal effect from the power, not the other known risks, such as non-thermal frequencies, pulsing, signal characteristics, etc. They fail also to consider multiple simultaneous exposures from a variety of sources in the environment, and cumulative exposures over a lifetime. Compliance with FCC guidelines, thus, unfortunately, is not in any way an assurance of safety today, as the guidelines are fundamentally flawed. Until the guidelines and advisories in the U.S. are updated, the intelligent thing for your Board of Trustees to do is to exercise the Precautionary Principle and hard wire all internet connections.

I know this might be disappointing to hear, as I understand you have invested in the WiFi. But there is no amount of money that could justify the added physiological stress from wireless antenna radiation and its many consequences, most in particular for children. Our research has shown that the cellular stress response, a protective reaction that is indicative of cellular damage, occurs at levels that are deemed 'safe'. Many other harmful reactions have been reported, such as the impairment of DNA processes that can account for the observed increased risk of cancer, as well as the potential cognitive decline, and sleep effects that may be due to impairment of the blood brain barrier. The DNA effects are of particular concern for future generations, an area of research that is just beginning to raise alarms. As with other environmental toxic exposures, children are far more vulnerable than adults, and they will have longer lifetimes of exposure.

The science showing reasons for concern about the microwave radiation emitted by antennas is abundant and there will be a day of reckoning. As I explain in my recent book,

Overpowered, The Precautionary Principle instructs us that in the face of serious threats, a lack of scientific 'certainty' never justifies inaction. The changes occurring at the molecular level, and known associations with many diseases, are sufficient at this time to give us pause and to recommend minimizing exposures to these fields, in our homes, schools, neighborhoods and workplaces. There is significant potential for risk, and to very large numbers of people, and the effects are occurring nonetheless whether or not we are noticing them.

I recommend you hardwire the internet connections at your school, and also encourage students to use hard wired connections at home for internet access, as well as for all computer equipment connections and voice communications.

Sincerely yours,



Martin Blank, PhD
mb32@columbia.edu,



Martin Blank, PhD, Special Lecturer and (ret.) Associate Professor, Columbia University, Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics. Dr. Blank is a leading expert in the effects of electromagnetic fields on DNA and biology, and Past President of the Bioelectromagnetics Society. He holds two PhDs, in physical chemistry and in colloid science, an interdisciplinary field involving chemistry, physics and nanoscience. Dr. Blank was author of the BioInitiative Report's section on the impact of electromagnetic fields on Stress Proteins; Editor of the journal *Pathophysiology's* special issue on Electromagnetic Fields (2009); and co-author of "Electromagnetic fields and health: DNA based dosimetry" (2012), which recommends a new way of assessing the biological impact of electromagnetic fields across the spectrum, using DNA. Dr. Blank's book, *"Overpowered—What Science Tells Us About the Dangers of Cell Phones and Other WiFi-Age Devices"*, was published in 2014.