

2/08/13

To: Board Members of the Los Angeles Unified School District

From: Kim Hahn, M.A.

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Re: The Common Core Project Plan and Wireless Technology

It has come to my attention that you are in a position right now to make a crucial decision with regard to the kind of wiring that will be chosen to bring the Internet and new learning tools into your schools. I have been a teacher for the past thirty-five years in Marin County and there is no doubt in my mind that with the advent of technological aids and Internet access, education has taken an enormous leap forward.

It is also painfully obvious to me that my years of exposure to wireless technology (I purchased the very first Mac computer to work as an editor of a software manual) have culminated in a personal sensitivity to electromagnetic radiation that renders me unable to be in the vicinity of any cell phones, cordless phones, routers, dongles, digital televisions, antennae or high voltage wires without experiencing severe headaches, tinnitus, and heart palpitations.

Children are especially at risk around wireless devices as their physiology is not completely developed. No long term studies of the effects of electro-magnetic radiation — such as that found in the wireless systems you are considering for your schools — exist because there simply has not yet been a long term. My fear is that the children of today, who will have had the greatest exposure of any generation, will grow up to find that they are electromagnetically sensitive for the rest of their lives or worse, develop brain tumors or other life-threatening diseases. The World Health Organization has already claimed that cell phones can indeed cause cancer. What more proof do we need?

Can you, in all good faith, take a step that may endanger your students for their entire lives?

PLEASE consider hard wiring the computer systems in your schools.

The Internet is just as accessible through landlines, DSL and modems as it is through wireless router systems. Please prioritize the health of the children over the glitz of technology.

Thank you.