



Robert Kosin <rkosin@barringtonhills-il.gov>

RE: Public health

1 message

Skip Gianopulos <sgianopulos@barringtonhills-il.gov>

Tue, Nov 20, 2012 at 4:08 PM

To: Mary Anne Wesoloski <MWesoloski@barrington220.org>

Cc: Clerk VBH <clerk@barringtonhills-il.gov>, Bob Kosin <rkosin@barringtonhills-il.gov>

Thanks you for your email and concern for the students at Countryside School. This topic will be brought up in the meeting tonight and I will ask that it be placed on the agenda for the next Board of Health meeting.

Skip Gianopulos
Trustee, Village of Barrington Hills
Cell Phone #: (312) 505-2173

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-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Anne Wesoloski [mailto:MWesoloski@barrington220.org]

Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2012 3:37 PM

To: sgianopulos@barringtonhills-il.gov

Subject: Public health

Thank you so much for calling me back today. I have attached the letter with talking points regarding my concern. Please let me know if you have any questions or need further information. I appreciate your response and look forward to hearing back from you.

Mary Anne Wesoloski,
MSN, RN, IL/NCSN
Certified School Nurse
Countryside School
Phone: [847/756.2825](tel:8477562825)
Fax: [847/756.2880](tel:8477562880)

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Letter to Mr. Gianolpulos.docx

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Mary Anne Wesoloski
Certified School Nurse
Countryside School, Barrington, IL, 60010

Dear Mr. Gianopulos,

I ask your guidance in resolving an environmental health issue that periodically occurs at Countryside School, especially in the fall.

Barrington Hill's open burning policy occasionally brings smoke to our building and grounds. On days when burning occurs smoke is often present in the air outside and brought into the building through our ventilation system. Smoke is a known carcinogen, a trigger for asthma, and is not healthy for anyone to breathe, especially children. Historically my health office has seen an increase in asthma symptoms and use of rescue inhalers on days when burning impacts the air quality at school. The CDC reports that asthma affects 9.4% of children and the trend is growing (CDC, 2012). This school year I have 26 students with a diagnosis of asthma. Children cannot reach their full learning potential when they cannot breathe well.

When burning occurs and smoke is present on our grounds and/or in our building, the entire population of the school is exposed to this health hazard. Countryside School has over 470 adults and children without counting parents and visitors to the school. Students and staff have no safe area to avoid smoke. Vacating the premises is not an option, therefore students and staff are exposed to the smoke for the duration of the school day.

I wish to propose a workable solution to the village of Barrington Hills regarding open burning. I would ask the Trustees to ban open burning "on school days when children are present". This would still give residents an opportunity to dispose of the brush collected on their property during non-attendance hours and days, while protecting the health of the entire school population. I wish also to encourage the village of Barrington Hills to find a sustainable way to dispose of excess brush such as a village mulch and compost program.

I care very deeply about the health of children and our entire school community. I feel this is a workable solution to an environmental health hazard. Please let me know your thoughts, questions, and concerns regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Wesoloski, MSN, RN, IL/NCSN