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MSB Not For Sale

Posted on Tuesday, February 03 @ 19:39:55 EST by editor

SOS: Save Our Space MSB Not For Sale

Halton Hills: The MSB (McKenzie-Smith Bennett Public School) Parent Council Newsletter recently reported: "On January 7, 2009 the Halton District School Board (HDSB) passed a motion in private, without any notice to stakeholders, parents or the town, to sell a portion of MSB property, encompassing vital playground space at MSB along Churchill Road. If the sale proceeds, the process could take place within the year. The land is zoned Institutional. Melissa Secord, Chair of the MSB School Parent Council joined Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette and other councillor members in holding a press conference at theActon Arena last Monday. The group gathered to protest Halton District School Board's decision to sell parcel, or parcels of McKenzie-Smith Bennett School land, to interested parties.

Acton school board trustee, Gerry Ockenden, voted in favour of the motion, believing it's a good thing for the board. Regardless of how Ockenden could have voted, the majority of the board rules and that was certainly the will of the board in this case (10-1 in favour).

What's next? The Mayor and MSB Parent Council have a new cause. According to Gerry Ockenden, he has only received two emails, both from the same person who made inquiries about the issue. He stated he had not yet received any phone call from the mayor to meet and talk face to face about the issue. He was not invited nor informed about the press conference. Ockenden attended the Parent Council meeting Monday evening, along with HDSB Superintendent, Jourdie, to discuss the issue with Parent Council and parents. Ockenden also attended the Acton High School, Tuesday, Feb. 3rd, and addressed the issue with the School Parent council.

At the News Conference, Parent Council's Chair, Melissa Secord went on to state;