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St. Augustine School, Italy

Parents gather as administrator removes the Wi-Fi router

What Are Other Countries Doing?

Worldwide schools are removing Wi-Fi. France has banned Wi-Fi in nursery schools and in elementary schools the Wi-Fi must be turned OFF unless specifically needed for instruction. Navarra Spain, Thurgau Canton,

Switzerland, Bavaria and Frankfurt, Germany recommend wired-only connections in schools. Several private schools in the US have pulled out the WiFi. Belgium has banned cell phones for children. India, Russia and Israel have taken various actions such as recommending headsets with cell phones. The Council of Europe's Resolution 1815 calls on governments to "take all reasonable measures" to reduce exposure to electromagnetic fields—especially to children."



What Kind of Health Effects Are We Talking About?

Some children are experiencing headaches, rapid heartbeat, memory problems, insomnia, fatigue and tinnitus from high-powered school Wi-Fi. According to the California Medical Association's 2014 Wireless Resolution, "peer reviewed research has demonstrated adverse biological effects of wireless EMF *including* single and double stranded DNA breaks, creation of reactive oxygen species, immune dysfunction, cognitive processing effects, stress protein synthesis in the brain, altered brain development, sleep and memory disturbances, ADHD, abnormal behavior, sperm dysfunction, and brain tumors."



Is Wi-Fi the Same as Cell Phones and Cell Tower Radiation?

All wireless devices emit the same type of microwaves: *radiofrequency* radiation (RF-EMF). Dr. Baan of the World Health Organization stated the Class 2 B Possible Carcinogen status applies to all RF-EMF (30 KHz to 300 GHz), including cell phones ... "cell towers *and* WiFi".



What Can We Do?

Talk to teachers, parents, administrators and your school board. Insist that a precautionary approach be taken and safe wired connections be installed. As parents we have a right to informed consent about the serious risks. Educate yourself about how to reduce exposures. Every parent can take simple steps at home and you will be surprised how easy it is. Build age appropriate awareness in your children so they can make informed decisions about minimizing these radiation exposures.



Do We Need Wi-Fi To Prepare For the 21st Century?

Thankfully, a safer 21st Century choice exists. A safe precautionary approach simply means using wired (not wireless) connections. Ethernet or fiber optic wired access points and device connections can provide internet access to children's devices and staff computers. Wired connections are faster and more secure from hackers. Our children deserve 100% safe tech.



"We have enough evidence to justify taking action and we are not willing to wait until our members, their children and the students suffer health consequences from not doing anything,"

-Paul Pecorale, Vice President of New York State United Teachers Union.