

National Association For Children and Safe Technology

Newsletter | April 2015

Dear NACST Members:

NACST Turn It Off 4 Kids Initiative

1.) On 19 February 2015, NACST received a response letter from the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE):

<http://nebula.wsimg.com/c7106fdc5d6f5ce7a7fab2aeaa3e68d4?AccessKeyId=C501C49FC54756FE9C7A&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>.

The letter explains:

"NASBE is a membership organization, and each year, our members set the agenda for the educational issues we will emphasize. Your proposal will need to be considered by the Public Education Positions (PEP) Committee, which will meet this summer. Then if it is recommended for consideration by the Delegate Assembly, it will be voted on in October."

What you can do:

Members of NACST can make a difference by educating state boards of education as well as local school boards about the Turn It Off 4 Kids Initiative. If NASBE receives enough state and local feedback in support of the initiative, perhaps they will support it too. NASBE contact information can be found here <http://www.nasbe.org/contact-us/>.

2.) Thank you for sharing the Turn It Off 4 Kids petition whenever possible. So far, there are 132 signatures; We hope to see that number continue to grow. In addition to signatures, many comments are being left in support of the initiative. For example, parents have written about their children's health being affected by the Wi-Fi networks in schools, conveying the need for remediation NOW.

Latest Additions to the NACST Directory

Welcome to Safe Tech Schools for Framingham <http://safetechforschoolsframingham.blogspot.com> in Massachusetts and Clear Light Ventures <http://www.clearlightventures.com> in California! 19 groups are now listed nationwide!

Wi-Fi in Schools

We are sharing two examples of Wi-Fi in Schools advocacy work from Maryland and Washington which could potentially be duplicated in any school district or state.

1.) February 2015 | Safe Tech for Schools Maryland

A new parent coalition, Safe Tech Schools for Maryland was formed after one parent had requested a report be done to measure the radio frequency radiation levels in her child's school. Based on the findings of the report, the radiation levels at the school were high enough to be considered unsafe.

While Maryland school district officials have stated the radiation levels at the school meet the safety standards set by the FCC, the Safe Tech Schools for Maryland group has countered that the FCC regulations are outdated, under current review and do not adequately protect children.

- Blog post on the radiation levels at Bells Mill Elementary School: <<http://safetechforschoolsmaryland.blogspot.com/2015/02/bells-mills-radiation-levels-in.html>>
- The Bells Mill Elementary School Report: <<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8Oub2Nx5eSLLXdoZopYd25mVnc/view>>

2.) March 2015 | Means for Change, Washington

According to the founder of the Washington based advocacy group, Means for Change (meansforchange.org):

"The Washington State PTA is working to get the matter of Wi-Fi in schools up for consideration on their public policy platform. The process and documentation is available on the WASTATEPTA.ORG website under Advocacy. The 2015-2016 school year process will begin later this spring with an intended due date of June 1 for submissions.

Submitted proposals are reviewed by staff, the Legislative Committee, and then onto the Board of Directors. Vetted sources go on to the Legislative Assembly in October of 2015. Those who have submitted issues will participate in issue education before it goes to caucus, floor debate, and finally to a vote of the body at the Legislative Assembly. If the issue is approved, it is added to the platform. See "Help decide WSPTA's positions" on the PTA advocacy page at <<http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/index.html>>.

Only PTA members can submit an issue. Submissions are due by June 1, 2015.
WA PTA Contact: Sherry Krainick, Legislative Director, simmoclan@comcast.net

- Documentation for the potential harm caused by Wi-Fi can be found through correspondences with the State at: <<http://www.meansforchange.org/Schools>>.
- The Washington State report on Wi-Fi public comments documentation, appendix C, <<http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/320-100-WiFiSafetyInSchoolsSept2014Final.pdf>>.

Legislation

1.) 78th Oregon Legislative Assembly | House Bill 3350 | 2015 Regular Session | Sponsored by Committee on Health Care

Oregon State Representative Alissa Kenyuguyer has proposed House Bill 3350 which directs the Oregon Department of Education to prepare a statement that would disclose the potential health risks of wireless technology. The Oregon bill would disclose wireless technology health risks to school staff & parents. The bill requires public and private schools to distribute the statement annually to employees and to parents of students. The bill declares an emergency stating that such an act is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health and safety. If the bill is adopted, it would take effect on July 15, 2015.

- HB 3350 Document: <<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2015R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB3350/Introduced>>
- Track HB 3350 / Additional Information: <<https://legiscan.com/OR/bill/HB3350/2015>>

2.) 127th Maine Legislature | LD883 HP620 | An Act to Create Cellular Telephone Labeling Act

"Summary: This bill requires cellular telephone manufacturers that include safety notifications in their owner's manuals to ensure that cellular telephone packaging includes those safety notifications or a label indicating where the safety notifications may be found in the owner's manual. It prohibits retailers from selling at retail in this State cellular telephones of manufacturers that include safety notifications in their owner's manuals but do not include on the product packaging the safety notifications or a label indicating where the safety notifications may be found. It requires manufacturers of cellular telephones to provide the safety notifications to retailers at no cost to the retailers. It also prohibits retailers from selling at retail in this State a cellular telephone that does not bear a label warning that the device emits radiofrequency electromagnetic fields. It also requires retailers to provide an information bulletin to the purchaser of a cellular telephone informing the purchaser of potential health risks associated with the use of cellular telephones. The bill provides that a violation of these provisions is a violation of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act."

- Electromagnetic Radiation Safety post: <http://www.saferemr.com/2015/03/maines-cellular-telephone-labeling-act_20.html>
- Full text of Maine's Cellular Telephone Labeling Act: <http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/bills_127th/billtexts/HP060201.asp>
- Bill Tracking / Additional Documents: <http://legislature.maine.gov/legis/bills/display_ps.asp?PID=0&snum=127&paper=&paperId=l&ld=883>

3.) 20 March 2015 | Annapolis, Maryland | House Bill 727 | Anne Arundel delegates approve school cell tower moratorium | Legislation faces more hurdles, opposition from Anne Arundel schools.

- HB 727 Document: <<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2015RS/bills/hb/hb0727f.pdf>>

- Article on HB 727: <<http://www.capitalgazette.com/news/government/ph-ac-cn-cell-tower-032015-20150320,0,3600840.story>>

4.) 18 March 2015 | Washington D.C. | Protester at Senate FCC hearing interrupts hearing to tell Commissioner Wheeler that microwave radiation is causing cancer, and the FCC has been hiding it. The protester was removed from the hearing.

Video clip of protester: <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDHMhZEOxvo#t=20>>

Complete video coverage of FCC Oversight Hearing (Interruption occurs between 14:00 and 15:00 minutes): <<http://www.c-span.org/video/?324849-1/fcc-commissioners-open-internet-agencys-future>>

5.) The Los Angeles City Council voted to halt the construction of a massive 700 MHz LTE network that was intended to cover 4,000 square miles and 34,000 law enforcement, fire service and health service workers.

- Article: <<http://www.fiercewireless.com/tech/story/los-angeles-officials-halt-public-safety-lte-network-clouding-firstnets-pro/2015-04-02>>

Legal

1.) 28 March 2015 | IBA News VOD | Dafna Tachover
News interview with attorney Dafna Tachover representing Israeli children who have become sick from exposure to Wi-Fi networks in schools. They are petitioning the Israeli Supreme Court to remove Wi-Fi and hardwire computers in schools.

IBA News video: <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bi4ccELDeKw&feature=youtu.be>>

2.) 10 March 2015 | T-Mobile's Letters of Cancellation: DeKalb County Schools Are Cell Tower Free! | Get the Cell Out! - ATL

Blog post: <<http://www.getthecelloutatl.com/2015/03/t-mobiles-letters-of-cancellation.html>>

3.) 26 February 2015 | The Bridge News Service | School Boards Left on the Hook for Wi-Fi Injuries | Janis Hoffman

"Lloyd's of London notified school districts in Canada that the company has excluded any liability coverage for injuries resulting from exposure to electromagnetic radiation, which includes Wi-Fi at school. Lloyd's of London suffered extreme financial losses from its coverage of asbestos cases. The company is obviously concerned about wireless radiation and doesn't want to repeat its asbestos mistake. Spread the word."

Blog post: <<http://thebridgenewsservice.com/2015/02/26/school-boards-left-on-the-hook-for-wi-fi-injuries/>>

Latest Research

14 March 2015 | RF Cancer Promotion: Animal Study Makes Waves
Microwave News Article: <<http://www.microwavenews.com/news-center/rf-animal-cancer-promotion>>

Science Direct Highlights / Abstract:
<<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006291X15003988>>

Article

21 March 2015
Are Smart Phones Making Our Children Mentally Ill?
Leading child psychotherapist Julie Lynn Evans believes easy and constant access to the internet is harming youngsters. | Peter Stanford

Article: <<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/health/children/11486167/Are-smartphones-making-our-children-mentally-ill.html>>

Good luck with your individual efforts and thank you for being a part of NACST!