

Frequently Asked Questions - Updated March 19, 2019 About the Weston Elementary Cell Tower

Background

About 10 years ago the district, before any of the current board members or administration, entered into a 25-year contract with Sprint for a cell tower located at Weston Elementary School. The cell tower does not have WiMax on it.

<u>Safety</u>

Student safety is always our primary concern. As concerns have been raised, our district has looked closer at the cell tower agreement. In addition to safety reassurances from Sprint, Ripon USD asked for multiple independent tests that have shown that the cell tower is operating safely within the guidelines established as safe by current government and global standards. The school district has completed soil and water testing. We are awaiting those results. District administration has also been in communication with the Environmental Epidemiology Section of the California Department of Public Health.

Legal Issues

We take the ongoing concerns seriously and want our families to feel comfortable in their school. Unfortunately, based on the contract we have been advised by several attorneys that there is no legal basis on which we can demand that Sprint remove the tower.

Income

The income from the cell tower is negligible and does not factor into the decision about placement.

Next Steps

We are continuing to work with Sprint to address the concerns and have requested that they consider our request to relocate or decommission the tower as soon as possible. Sprint spokesperson, Adrienne Norton, on Monday confirmed that they hope to meet this week to work things out. "We very much hear what the community is saying, we understand their concerns, and we are working to come up with alternative solutions as quickly as we can," she said.

Contact

If you have further questions regarding the cell tower, please contact Adrienne Norton at Sprint Corporate Communications Network at 425-256-7014 or adrienne.norton@sprint.com.