

## **A List of Schools and Organizations That Have Taken Action Regarding Wireless Technology**

2014 St. Augustine School, Italy, removed Wi-Fi.

2014 Upper Stuart Primary School, Australia, after consulting with the local community, chose cabled internet rather than Wi-Fi to protect their children's health.

2013 The Israeli Ministry of Education issued new guidelines regarding Wi-Fi use in schools, as of 27 August 2013, the guidelines will stop the installation of wireless networks in classrooms prior to the first grade and limit the use of Wi-Fi between first and third grades. Teachers are required to turn off mobile phones and Wi-Fi routers when they are not being used.

2013, Israeli Supreme Court ordered Israeli Government to investigate the number of children suffering from EHS (electromagnetic hypersensitivity)

2013 Te Horo School, New Zealand, removed Wi-Fi from the primary school.

2013 Winlaw Elementary School, B.C. Canada, turned off Wi-Fi.

2013 Ontario Teachers Union voted to require student cell phones to be turned off at school.

2013 BC Teachers Federation recognized Wi-Fi as a possible cancer risk.

2013 Blaise-Cendrars High School, Switzerland. Teachers voted to remove Wi-Fi.

2013 Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario, representing 76,000 teachers, recommended that cell phones be turned off in classrooms, that all Wi-Fi transmitters be labeled, and that a hazard control program be developed for wireless radiation.

2013 The European Council produced a report warning of the harmful effects of Wi-Fi and cell phones to children and babies and proposes to member states to ban their use in schools.

2013 Los Angeles, CA, United Teachers Union passed a resolution stating that all employees shall be notified of any potential hazards in the workplace, including electromagnetic radiation.

2013 National Education Association, U.S. passed a resolution stating that all educational facilities must have healthy indoor air quality, be smoke free, be safe from environmental and chemical hazards, and be free from hazardous electromagnetic fields.

2011 Aurora School in Ontario, Canada removed WiFi and replaced with hardwired connections to protect children's health.

2012 Israeli Minister of Health stated that he supports a ban of Wi-Fi in schools.

2012, The Russian National Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation officially recommended that Wi-Fi not be used in schools.

2011 North Cariboo Christian School in Quesnel, B.C., Canada, removed Wi-Fi and replaced with hardwired connections to protect children's health.

2011 Saanich School District on Victoria Island, BC, Canada passed a use of technology policy at their board meeting, which included:

- a. There will be no Wi-Fi in elementary schools.
- b. In middle and secondary schools, managed Wi-Fi environments may be in adult workplaces including staff rooms and offices as necessary.
- c. Middle schools will have up to 25% coverage of student areas...

2011 Peterborough, ON, Canada. Wayside Academy removed WiFi.

2011 Collingwood, ON Canada. Pretty River Academy removed WiFi.

2011 Ontario, Canada. Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association stated that its schools should practice prudent avoidance of exposure.

2011 Council of Europe recommended the banning of Wi-Fi and cell phones from schools.

2011 The Israeli Ministry of Education. Published guidelines strictly limiting the use of mobile phones on all school grounds, citing children's increased risk of malignant tumors and the "passive exposure" experienced by children who do not use the phones.

2010 Meaford, Ontario, Canada St. Vincent Euphrasia elementary school: Parents voted to turn off Wi-Fi.

2010 Surrey, BC, Canada Roots and Wings Montessori Place removed Wi-Fi

2010 Parliament of HESSE (Germany) Ruling:

"88% Wired Internet Access... To reduce the exposure to electrosmog but also to provide the computers with faster access to the school network, a wired connection should be given preference wherever possible. For this, however, school authorities need to lay the necessary groundwork. Classrooms must be fitted with many, easily accessible network ports. Desks must be arranged in such a way that cluttered network cables do not pose a risk to students."

2010 Israel's Position Paper on Electromagnetic Radiation in a School Environment  
Full Text English version: <http://www.disconnectbook.com/2011/03/07/position-paper-on-electromagnetic-radiation-in-a-school-environment/>  
Original Text in Hebrew: <http://tinyurl.com/64ptqvj>

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2010 New Zealand: decision to install WiFi rests with the individual school principal and school board.

2009 The city of Hérouville Saint-Clair, France: Banned Wi-Fi in public schools.

2009 Karnataka State, India. Banned cell phones in all schools and pre-university colleges.

2008 The European Parliament voted almost unanimously (522 to 16) to urge Cabinet Ministers across Europe to introduce stricter regulations for microwave exposure.

2008 DFES UK: placed the responsibility on individual schools to decide whether to install WiFi technology.

2008 USA Progressive Librarians Guild: Recommended no wireless technology in libraries & schools

2008 Sainte-Geneviève University, Paris: Removed Wi-Fi from library.

2008-2010 French National Library and four public libraries removed Wi-Fi .

2008 Ballinderry Primary School, Ireland removed Wi-Fi

2008 Sebastapol, CA, Cancelled its contract to install citywide WiFi.

2008 Voice (UK Teachers Union): Called for a ban on Wi-Fi in schools.

2007 Therold, Ontario, Canada terminated its citywide Wi-Fi pilot scheme.

2007 Ballinderry Primary School, Ireland. Removed Wi-Fi.

2007 Germany's Federal Government's national warning: Avoid exposure to radiation emanating from WiFi in cafés, schools, public "hot spots", and private homes. Recommended that people should keep their exposure to radiation from Wi-Fi "as low as possible".

2007 Bavaria, Germany: Recommended no Wi-Fi in schools.

2007 European Environmental Agency, Europe's top environmental watchdog, calls for immediate action to reduce exposure to radiation from WiFi, cell phones, and cell towers.

2006 Ysgol Pantycelyn School, Carmarthenshire, Wales: Removed Wi-Fi from campus.

2006 Stowe School, Buckinghamshire, England: Removed Wi-Fi from a portion of the school after a teacher became ill.

2006 Prebandal Preparatory School, Chichester, England: Removed Wi-Fi from its campus

2006 Frankfurt, Germany: Recommends the ban of Wi-Fi in public schools.

2005 Salzburg, Austria's Public Health Department banned Wi-Fi in schools and nurseries.

2005 Vienna Medical Association warned against WiFi and cell phone use by children.

2004 International Association of Fire Fighters: Opposed communication antennas on fire stations.

2002. Interdisciplinary Society for Environmental Medicine (3000 physicians in Germany), recommended banning cell phones and cordless phones in schools, nursing homes, preschools, hospitals, and other public buildings.

2000 UK Department of Education: Children under 16 should not use cell phones except in an emergency.

1993 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH): The FCC's standard is inadequate because it is based solely on one dominant mechanism – adverse health effects are caused by body heating.

1993 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) “FCC rules do not address the issue of long-term, chronic exposure to RF fields. Comments from the FDA to the FCC.

1993 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): The FCC's exposure guidelines are “seriously flawed”. Official Comments to the FCC on guidelines for evaluation of electromagnetic effects of radiofrequency radiation.

## **Resolutions and Appeals Calling for Lower EMF Exposures from Scientists, MDs and Psychologists (May be Incomplete)**

**2013 Potenza Picena Resolution**, international scientific conference concludes: “...animal experiments show that radiofrequency is a co-carcinogenic agent; radiofrequency induces oxidative stress processes in tissues and living organisms; different epidemiological studies show that there is a significant increase of health risks on the people exposed to pulsed radiofrequency and more studies need to be done; Wi-Fi should not be placed in schools and in public areas since they have characteristics of pulsed signals ...”

2013 – **American Academy of Environmental Medicine** Open Letter to the Superintendents of the School Districts of the United States. AAEM strongly supports the use of wired Internet connections:

*“In a school setting, children are exposed to WiFi for an unprecedented period of time, for their entire childhood. Some of these signals will be much more powerful than is received at home, due to the need for the signals to go through walls, and serve multiple computers simultaneously. The school signals are dozens of times more powerful than the café and restaurant systems.”*

2013 – **American Academy of Pediatrics**, an organization of 60,000 pediatric doctors recommends the reassessment of radiation standards for cell phones and other wireless products and the adoption of standards that are protective of children and reflect current use patterns.

2012 – **BioInitiative Report** authored by 29 international experts who, after studying over **1800 new** (post 2007) peer-reviewed scientific studies, concluded again “that exposure to EMF and radiofrequency radiation (RFR) produces biological effects and adverse health effects at levels significantly below existing public exposure standards, and substantially below levels identified in 2007.”

2011 – **The World Health Organization** classified radiofrequency radiation as a possible carcinogen, placing it in the same health risk category as Lead and DDT. This Group 2B classification holds for all types of radiofrequency radiation including that from base-station antennas, radio/TV towers, radar, Wi-Fi (laptops, iPads, etc.), wireless routers, smart meters, and cell phones.

2011 – **UK Department of Health** advised children to only use mobile phones for essential and short calls.

April 2011: **The Russian National Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection** (RNCNIRP) released their Resolution entitled “Electromagnetic fields from Mobile Phones: Health Effect on Children and Teenagers”.

*“...urgent measures must be taken because of the inability of children to recognize the harm from the mobile phone use... usage of a mobile phone by children and adolescents under 18 years old [and] by pregnant women is not recommended... It is required to include courses on mobile phones use and issues concerning EMF exposure in... schools... [We’re] ready to assist... mass-media in... [EMF] awareness-raising work....”*

2009: **Porto Alegre Resolution**, Brazil. Scientists and doctors recognize electrohypersensitivity and are concerned that exposure to electromagnetic fields may increase the risk of cancer and chronic diseases; that exposure levels established by international agencies (IEEE, ICNIRP, ICES) are obsolete; and that wireless technology places at risk the health of children, teens, pregnant women and others who are vulnerable.

2009 – **U.S. President’s Cancer Panel** report *Reducing Environmental Cancer Risk, What We Can Do Now*. Notes cancer rates have been grossly underestimated and raises concerns re: EMFs. Statement on poor monitoring, etc.:

*“Weak laws and regulations, inefficient enforcement, regulatory complexity, and fragmented authority allow avoidable exposures to known or suspected cancer-causing and cancer-promoting agents to continue and proliferate in the workplace and the community. Existing regulations, and the exposure assessments on which they are based, are outdated in most cases, and many known or suspected carcinogens are completely unregulated. Enforcement of most existing regulations is poor. In virtually all cases, regulations fail to take multiple exposures and exposure interactions into account”*

2010: **Seletun Statement**, Norway: **The International Electromagnetic Field Alliance** (IEMFA) released their report entitled *Scientific Panel on Electromagnetic Field Health Risks: Consensus Points, Recommendations, and Rationales* following a scientific meeting at Seletun Norway November 2009.

*"body of evidence on EMF requires a new approach to protection of public health; the growth and development of the fetus, and of children; and argues for strong preventative actions. New, biologically-based public exposure standards are urgently needed to protect public health worldwide."*

*"The deployment of technologies that expose billions of people worldwide to new sources of EMF may pose a pervasive risk to public health. Such exposures did not exist before the —age of industry and information. Prolonged exposure appears to disrupt biological processes that are fundamental to plant, animal and human growth and health."*

*"The combined effects of chemical toxins and EMF together is greater than either exposure alone."*

*"The undersigned recognize the duty of governments and their health agencies to educate and warn the public, to implement measures balanced in favor of the Precautionary Principle, to monitor compliance with directives promoting alternatives to wireless, and to fund research and policy development geared toward prevention of exposure."*

2009: **EU Parliament Electromagnetic Report and Resolution** entitled: European Parliament Resolution on health concerns associated with electromagnetic fields, was adopted February 17, 2009 with 29 recommendations.

2008: **Venice Resolution**, Italy. International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety (ICEMS) Scientists recognize biological effects at non-thermal levels, that standards are inadequate, that electro-sensitivity exists and that there is a need to research mechanisms.

2008 – **Decision of Russian National Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection**, "CHILDREN AND MOBILE PHONES: THE HEALTH OF THE FOLLOWING GENERATIONS IS IN DANGER."

2008 – **International Commission on Electromagnetic Safety** (comprised of scientists from 16 nations) recommended limiting cell phone use by children and teenagers.

2007 – **BioInitiative Report**: A Rationale for a Biologically-based Public Exposure Standard for Electromagnetic Fields (ELF and RF), USA. Reviews more than **2,000** peer-reviewed, published scientific papers that demonstrate biological effects and negative health effects from exposure to RF radiation at non-thermal levels.

2006 – **Benevento Resolution**, Italy. The International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety (ICEMS) held a conference called, "The Precautionary EMF Approach: Rationale, Legislation and Implementation." Scientists at the conference agreed "to assist in the promotion of EMF research and the development of strategies to protect public health through the wise application of the precautionary principle," and to 7 major statements.

2005 – **Helsinki Appeal 2005**, Finland. Physicians and researchers appeal to the European Parliament.

2005 – **IDEA Position on Electro-Magnetic Radiation, Irish Doctors' Environmental Association** (IDEA), Ireland. Requests Irish Government urgently review thermal and non-thermal effects of electro-magnetic radiation:

*"An increasing number of people in Ireland are complaining of symptoms which... can be demonstrated to be clearly related to exposure to electro-magnetic radiation... International studies on animals over the last 30 years have shown the potentially harmful effects of...electro-magnetic radiation... The current safe levels for exposure to microwave radiation were determined based solely on the thermal effects of this radiation. There is now a large body of evidence that clearly shows that this is not appropriate..."*

2005: **Irish Doctors' Environmental Association** (IDEA), Ireland. Members of IDEA wrote a position paper on electromagnetic radiation. Doctors recognize electrohypersensitivity (EHS) is increasing and request advice from government on how to treat EHS.

2002 – **Catania Resolution**, Italy. Organized by the Italian National Institute for Prevention and Work Safety. Six agreements were signed by scientists at the conference, "State of the Research on Electromagnetic Fields-Scientific and Legal Issues."

2002 : **Freiburg Appeal, Germany**. Physicians request tougher guidelines for radio frequency exposure. This document was endorsed by thousands of healthcare practitioners (3000+).

1998 – **Vienna EMF Resolution**, Austria, to reduce public exposure to EMFs. A workshop on "Possible Biological and Health Effects of RF Electromagnetic Fields"