The AAPS Board is Out of Control, and Needs to Be Stopped

Subject:

From: Barry Gross

Sent: Friday, June 6, 2025 3:08 PM

To: Mallek, Jon <JMallek@a2gov.org>; Watson, Chris <CWatson@a2gov.org>; Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>; NAP Natural Area Preservation <NAP@a2gov.org>; Delacourt, Derek <DDelacourt@a2gov.org>; Bennett, Michelle <MBennett@a2gov.org>; Manor, Courtney <CManor@a2gov.org>; Lenart, Brett <BLenart@a2gov.org>

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Council Members, Planning Commission, Natural Area Preservation, and City Planning Commission:

I am a retired University of Michigan physician who has lived in Ann Arbor for 51 of the last 56 years, including the past 43 years; I was away only for 5 years of internship, residency, and fellowship. I am tired of the shenanigans of the Ann Arbor School Board regarding the replacement of Thurston School. They have ignored the outcry of area residents concerned about the schoolchildren who will be forced to attend school in a probably unsafe environment given construction noise as well as potential exposure to asbestos and other hazardous materials. Furthermore, this plan threatens the Thurston Nature Center, a precious community resource. And all of this for what reason? There is an alternative plan to stage Thurston students at new Logan School, which is being built as I write this letter to you. This plan keeps the new building away from the nature center AND the students. The School Board megalomaniacs may believe they can run roughshod over our community, but they cannot do that to you! And they apparently need to construct a road on land owned by the city of Ann Arbor to complete their dastardly plan. Please refuse this request and make the School Board listen to reason, the will of local parents (and grandparents, like I am), the best interests (and health) of our students, and the fragile ecosystem of an amazing environmental education center.

Barry H. Gross, M.D.