

District No. 91

Forest Park Public Schools

15915

Dr. Louis Cavallo, Superintendent of Schools

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September 18, 2008

Phillis Johnson-Ball
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Administrative Office
424 DesPlaines Avenue
Forest Park, IL 60130-1718
(708) 366-5700
Fax (708) 366-5761

RE: STB Finance Docket No. 35087

Dear Ms. Johnson-Ball:

William J. Milnamow, Principal
Betsy Ross School
1315 Marengo Ave.
(708) 366-7498

As the superintendent of Forest Park School District #91, Forest Park, Illinois, I am writing to urge you to approve the Canadian National acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway.

Mary J. Stauder, Principal
Garfield School
543 Hannah Ave.
(708) 366-6945

The freight congestion in our community jeopardizes the safety of some of our school-aged children. Our homes and schools lie near the rail lines across which freight trains travel. When freight trains idle at various points on the rail line, our children that walk to and from our schools are tempted to crawl under or around stopped freight trains.

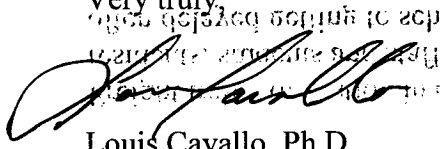
Wendy F. Trotter, Principal
Grant-White School
147 Circle Ave.
(708) 366-5704

Freight train congestion in our community impacts the day-to-day lives of our residents, students and staff. Teachers, other staff members and students are often delayed getting to school due to freight trains. While inconvenience is expected in a region that acts as a transportation hub, it is the safety of the students that is of utmost concern.

Robert N. Giovannoni, Principal
Field-Stevenson School
925 Beloit Ave.
(708) 366-5703

As you consider the final environmental impact of the CN acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad, I urge you to also consider the impact on the safety of the children in communities, such as ours, where the number of freight trains will decrease. We have lived with rail congestion for many years and now an opportunity exists to provide us with some relief. I encourage you to support the EJ&E transaction.

Karen A. Bukowski, Principal
Beth Kovacic, Asst. Principal
Forest Park Middle School
925 Beloit Ave.
(708) 366-5703

Very truly,


Louis Cavallo, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Forest Park School District #91