



LAKE BLUFF SCHOOL DISTRICT 65

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Lisa Leali, Superintendent, Jay Kahn, CSBO and Austin Johnson, Director of Safety and Security

Date: 2/14/26

Subject: Proposed Pilot Crossing Guard at Shagbark Lane and Route 176

In response to requests from families seeking safer options for students to walk or ride bicycles to school, the district is exploring a pilot program to add a crossing guard near Shagbark Lane and Route 176.

Currently, students traveling from neighborhoods on the west side do not have a safe crossing point to access the bike path, limiting safe active transportation options for families.

Mr. Austin Johnson is working closely with Mr. Jay Kahn and our Facilities Manager, Mr. Andy Garcia to identify the safest location for students to cross while also ensuring appropriate safety conditions for a crossing guard. In addition, the administrative team is reviewing salary comparisons and developing cost estimates to determine the financial feasibility of the pilot.

The proposed pilot would run from the first day of school following spring break through the last day of school this year. During this period, we will collect data on student usage, with an anticipated sustainability benchmark of an average of at least ten student crossings per day. Should the pilot demonstrate sufficient use and safety success, we would recommend offering crossing guard support annually during months conducive to walking and biking, beginning at the start of the school year to Thanksgiving break, and again from the first day after spring break through the end of the school year.

We are grateful to Representative Bob Morgan's office for assisting in alleviating funding obligations related to the stoplight at Foster Ave., allowing the district to redirect those resources toward this safety-focused initiative.

To ensure reliability of coverage, we plan to recruit two trained crossing guards so coverage can continue in the event of illness or absence. Appropriate training will be provided, and we will continue to keep the Board and community informed as the pilot progresses.



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This effort aligns with our goals of supporting student safety, encouraging healthy transportation options, and responding to community needs.

We welcome any feedback from the Board as we move forward with planning.

Respectfully,
Dr. Lisa Leali
Superintendent
Lake Bluff School District 65



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