Trustee urges board officials to continue to do research into matter

students with learning disabilities are located.

The trustee agreed international and national health organizations don't have enough information to say Wi-Fi use is safe but insisted they also don't have enough information to say that it "isn't safe."

"I believe more research is needed and this may take years so what do we do now," Mac-Neill posed to fellow board members. "Our position as trustees is to do our best for children and allowing them to sit all day in an environment that cannot be proven to be safe is in my opinion not our best."

Before the vote, Jennifer Foster, a Grade 8 student at Sam Sherratt Public School in Milton urged trustees not to pass MacNeill's motion, saying Wi-Fi was vital to her learning.

From working on math projects to doing geography research, Foster said Internet access

via Wi-Fi is the most valuable tool she uses each day in school and it's impossible to connect via cable every time she needs to use the Internet.

"I don't know how I would be able to complete my studies without the Internet," she said. "It constantly provides new information that we can't get from books."

In voting against MacNeill's motion, Halton Hills trustee Alice Strachan urged board officials to continue to do research into the matter.

"We should re-visit this in the future and pay attention and have our antennae up in the future," Strachan said.

Board Vice-Chair Kathryn Bateman-Olmstead said that the majority of parents of students, who use technology are very clear in that "wireless is the most important tool" for their students.



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