

**Dear Bend City Councilors and Bend-La Pine School Board Members:**

**Thank you for volunteering to serve on Bend's City Council and the Bend-La Pine School Board. We appreciate all you are doing for the City of Bend and its educational system, however, we believe the safety of our students at Bend Senior High and Bear Creek should be the top priority for the area that accommodates these schools.**

**As Bend High coaches, we are concerned about the homeless campsite under consideration off NE Ninth Street between Bend Senior High School and Bear Creek Elementary.**

**Both these schools nurture some of Bend's most socioeconomically disadvantaged school populations and are also grateful to be two of the most ethnically and racially diverse schools in Bend - this truly matters!**

**We have reviewed the Bend City Council Goal from the City's website, "Safety, Health, Accountability & Justice; Work to create an environment where all community members feel safe accessing the services they need and confident the right service will be provided. Deliver public safety services in ways that build community resiliency and trust."**

**We are concerned about student safety. This area is a corridor where hundreds of children commute daily between the two schools, Juniper Park, and Ponderosa Park. For Bend High, we have students, six soccer teams, a 9th-grade baseball team, lacrosse teams, and about 135 XC and track runners who use this area to access our 15th St. fields and running areas. We see Bear Creek Elementary students walking in this area every school day.**

**Schools go into "Lock Out" when there are safety threats near campus. This is traumatic and disrupts daily learning for students, teachers, families, and our community. We need you to closely evaluate how this campsite may impact our two schools.**

**We need the City Council and School Board to consider building community resiliency by evaluating if this is the best environment for our students. While there may be educational opportunities with any homeless camp, we also want you to consider these are children. Many of these kids are struggling with their own developmental needs and we as a community need to closely evaluate if we are creating an environment that is best for the students at these two schools. We need to determine if we are setting up an equitable campus situation among all schools in Bend.**

**We support the Council's goal for accessible and effective city government. However, we believe the current decision to offer RV and tent camping in between the school campuses creates homeless opportunities at the expense of student safety.**

**We support the BLPSD School Board's stances on equity and safety. As advocates for our students, we do not understand how anything could be more important than safe, secure environments for our kids.**

**Please review our safety concerns with a pause to the execution of the proposed homeless camp between BSH and Bear Creek.**

**Thank you!**

## **BSH Coaches**

**Matt Craven**  
**Lisa Karnopp Nye**  
**Lowell Norby**  
**Louis Bennett**  
**Luke Larwin**  
**Terry Mitchell**  
**Gavin Thiele**  
**Scott Gilsdorf**  
**Nate Neil**  
**Sean Waak**  
**Fred Kent**  
**Liam Brown**  
**Scott Novelli**  
**Kevin Cooper**  
**Kristin Cooper**  
**Doug Brown**  
**Bob Latham**  
**Mick Craven**  
**Craig Walker**  
**Kathy Walker**  
**Quinn Clair**  
**Aaron Johnson**  
**John Weisner**  
**Eddie Flores**  
**Bill Cooper**  
**Tom Mauldin**  
**Rusty Clemons**  
**Bret Bailey**  
**Alyssa Dagleish**  
**Jared Dagleish**  
**Nils Eriksson**  
**Ian Amman**  
**Emily Kernen**  
**David Gregson**  
**Justin Norris**  
**Jenna Mattox**  
**Chris Wright**  
**Rivers Gross**  
**Erik Hamburg**  
**Brody Hadley**  
**Heidi Hadley**  
**Steve Hayes**  
**Jen Latham**  
**Don Hayes**  
**Liz Hewitt**  
**Alisha Roe Rudloff**  
**Pat McHenry**