

Letters: Southside High, Meals

We need some answers about kids' cancer cases

I am beyond furious after attending a meeting at Southside High School on May 2.

I was so insulted by the "answers" given by the panel of "experts" that ran the meeting that evening.

We were told everything was safe, but there were no answers about why children who attended Southside are getting sick.

Why are they developing cancer and other illnesses that normally could not be found in such concentrations in an area as small as Elmira's Southside?

The community itself needs to become so much louder.

We cannot allow any cover-ups. What was in a report that was supposedly detailed in 1997? In the meantime, children are developing thyroid problems, diseases of the bone marrow, cancer, skin diseases and stomach and colon problems. And those are only the problems I heard that evening.

How many children are being treated for what may appear to be a fairly normal problem, but may have been brought on by whatever

is in the soil, water and air?

And what about the surrounding neighborhoods? How many people have become sick and have died needlessly?

Forty years ago, growing up on the Southside near Dunn Field, Elmira was a type of utopia. Kids played in the yards, streets and playgrounds with little concern. Schoolyards were used by communities after hours for family games and picnics. Now, in this neighborhood on the Southside, kids are falling, one at a time, and we're being told by experts that the school is safe.

There has to be an answer. Until we as a family can figure out a suitable alternative, we are taking our daughter out of school near the end of her junior year.

After all the promises we made her as we prepared for this move back home, we have come up against something we never expected. We don't know what else to do.

LAURA GRAY
Elmira

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Meals On Wheels desperately

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