

## **Lopez, Donna**

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**From:** Association of Cambridge Neighborhoods [acncambridge@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2012 3:33 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Manager; Semonoff, Ellen  
**Cc:** Lopez, Donna  
**Subject:** Community Schools--for inclusion in City Council packet for March 19 meeting

Dear Honorable City Councillors, Mr. Healy and Ms. Semonoff:

We are writing on behalf of the Association of Cambridge Neighborhoods to support the Community Schools and associated neighborhood councils. The Community Schools and neighborhood councils provide tremendous benefit to our community at very little expense and should be maintained and improved.

It would be shortsighted and foolish to disband the King Community School and King Neighborhood Council while the school building they are housed in is reconstructed. There is no good reason to discard years of institutional memory and goodwill. It would be a disservice to the hundreds of people of all ages who currently use their programs to cut them off with no promise that they will be restored, assuming that it would even be possible to do that once the doors have been closed for several years.

Likewise, the Longfellow Community School and Longfellow Neighborhood Council need a dedicated director, as they currently have, now that they will be moving back to their traditional home on Broadway.

Now that the Amigos School will have its own building, it should have its own community school and neighborhood council like every other school so that its community and neighborhood can create their own programs and traditions.

Very truly yours,

Carolyn Mieth and Heather Hoffman, co-presidents