Organized by Dennis Ave. School Council
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Petition for Pedestrian Crossover & Crossing Guard at Dennis Ave. Community School

To: TDSB Trustee Liban Hassan, Councillor Frances Nunziata, and Mayor John Tory

Our families and students deserve to be safe when arriving at and departing from school.

Dennis Ave. Community School (JK – Grade 8) is currently relocated to the old Rockcliffe Middle School building. Our school serves one of the lowest-income and most underserved communities in Toronto; the vast majority of the school's families use public transit to travel to and from school while it is being housed outside of our immediate neighbourhood. There is also an EarlyOn Drop-In centre housed in our school that serves families with babies and toddlers up to age 4. As a result, many parents, students (ages 4 – 13), and young children must cross Rockcliffe Blvd. in front of the school, darting between cars, to access a TTC bus stop. Families and students who walk to school must cross Alliance Ave. at Rockcliffe: a busy intersection, with a short walk indication time making it hard to cross safely. In fact, 10 years ago a cyclist was hit and killed by a car at this intersection[1]. Furthermore, nearby Rockcliffe Court is full of building and landscaping supply stores, as well as various City of Toronto yards; large transportation and construction trucks are constantly traveling along Alliance Ave. & Rockcliffe Blvd. This makes crossing the streets unpredictable and dangerous. We understand the process usually involves a "Pedestrian Crossing Protection Study", however this need is urgent.

We, the undersigned parents, staff and community members, call on the City of Toronto to by-pass or expedite the protection study and make sure our kids and families can travel safely by immediately installing a flashing crosswalk/crossover in front of Dennis Ave. Community School (400 Rockcliffe Blvd.) and a crossing guard either in front of the school or at the intersection of Rockcliffe Blvd & Alliance Ave. during the hours of 8:30-9:30am and 3:00-4:30pm.