Subject Line: Danger to Students - The Old Playground

**Dear Principal Ben Dover,**

A playground is an essential part of the school structure; it allows for students to get recess exercise, establish friendships, and learn invaluable social skills for a growing and changing student body. However, with the current condition of the playground, students leave frustrated, and even worse, there come back with safety concerns. And they are not the only ones. It’s easy to see how much rust coats any equipment- so much so that I had to write an email to you about it. As School Leader of The Committee Council, everyone came with their concerns.

Students have come to me expressing their concerns about the equipment and cracked pavement or lack of play structures that encourage play. The swings creak with no one on them, the slide is faded and rough, and there are many areas of the playground that show disrepair. Where there used to be sounds of laughter and energy on a warm day now is a boring, unsafe, and unappealing place to spend playtime.

Studies have shown that play and physical exercise contribute greatly to the cognitive and emotional development of children. Therefore, a renovated playground not only provides students with access to active play, but also teaches them about teamwork, group collaboration, problem-solving, and overcoming Obstacles. Without a renovation attempt, students are basically left with a playground set that does not meet their developmental needs and recreational desires.

We intend to add new equipment in exchange for outdated options, resurface areas that are cracked and present safety issues, and include equipment that boasts sensory integration options, as well as shaded seating options. Not only will this create a safe, inclusive, inviting atmosphere of play, but constant engagement from students of all ages.

Furthermore, a safe playground will encourage healthy developments within a school community that values such holistic growth. This will ensure that the playground is used for its natural intentions and fosters not only physical inclusion, but also emotional stability, as students are able to play, destress, and recharge during critical downtime. They deserve refuge that is comfortable and safe for their well-being.