Hi - I am an employee of the Oakes Public School and also a parent. The stoplight is there to help control the flow of traffic through a busy intersection not just during school hours but year round. We have many kids that cross the busy road to go to the Tornado Stop or other businesses, as our Main Street is on the opposite side of the highway. I have always been concerned about the trucks that don't use the truck route and come through town much too quickly. If they take our stoplight away, I am even more concerned that a child could be harmed.

I am so surprised if this is an issue that we have to fight for. I know all of the students, and one loss would be one too many. To the people that are considering this, think about if this was your child or grandchild that had a school next to the road and had to cross the highway frequently. Wouldn't you want a stoplight to regulate the traffic to keep them safe all year round?

Praying you make the right decision, which is to install a new light in our town of Oakes. Denise Awender