May 09, 2022

City of Detroit Historic District Commission Coleman A Young Municipal Center 2 Woodward, Suite 808 Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Historic District Commission:

Thank you for your hard work to advocate for maintaining the Historic integrity of Detroit's buildings and neighborhoods.

I'm writing on behalf of Detroit Waldorf School to express my support for the Outdoor Classroom Community Project. I am one of the many parents that are grateful for the vision of the school, making the most out of an unprecedented circumstance, providing critical access to an incredibly enriching outdoor learning experience.

I was skeptical when I first saw what Waldorf built and proposed would be a year-round learning environment, but after learning to trust the process like we have with Waldorf for the past seven years, we entrusted our two daughters with them and were pleasantly surprised by how much our daughters loved learning outdoors, even in the snow or rain. Waldorf has done such an amazing job building the elevated classrooms that our girls never even mentioned what us adults might define as abnormal learning environments. They love it and it's just become an enriching part of their experience.

Additionally, my family and I are Indian Village residents. Living in a neighborhood with a myriad of eclectic neighbors and historic architecture we welcome homes with year-round Halloween decorations and a beautiful school advocating for its youth being imaginative enough to build outdoor sheds that serve as classrooms. They executed the pivot to outdoor learning with excellence and the student and parent community have responded with overwhelming support.

My family and I value the city of Detroit's dedication to supporting its historic neighborhoods in Detroit and maintaining its architectural integrity throughout the city, and I think the Waldorf project in particular shows how to tastefully add to that history when necessary. With young and old continuing to suffer from the reality of a still surging virus, we advocate for what Waldorf has built to be maintained indefinitely, not just for safety, but because we all learned through this pandemic that we can work from anywhere and I think Waldorf taught that students that are cared for can learn from anywhere.

Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any question or additional about our Detroit Waldorf experience sebastian@atthesocialclub.com or 313.820.3501

Enthusiastically,

Sebastian Jackson