

## Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

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**From:** jpleasant3@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 10:59 AM  
**To:** ANC 3G Office (ANC 3G); Gore, Lisa (SMD 3G01); Higgins, John (SMD 3G02); Speck, Randy (SMD 3G03); Zeldin, Michael (SMD 3G04); Chang, Connie (SMD 3G05); Gosselin, Peter (SMD 3G06)  
**Subject:** Letter in Support of ECC

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01/06/2022

John Pleasant  
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Commissioner Randy Speck  
ANC 3G03

Dear Commissioner:

I write in support of the Episcopal Center for Children (ECC) in their effort to remain viable and relevant in our community. Although I have lived in the neighborhood for over 40 years, I understand this project will not directly affect my house or surroundings. Having lived through Ingleside's multiple years of renovations directly across the street, however, I am not without sympathy for those in the immediate surroundings of those changes that are to take place in the agreement with Maret School. Where once stood hundreds of trees now stands a multiple-storied building with rows of lighted windows that shine in my own every night.

When the ECC ceased operations as a therapeutic school for children with emotional challenges in June 2019, I had been an employee there for 50 years. Hired in 1969 as a child care worker, I then worked there as a social worker until 2019. I, too, have wrestled with concerns about how to keep the ECC relevant in the community, and have had mixed feelings about the use of the property. In particular, I mourn the loss of the trees, the expansive lower field, and the pool. I realize, however, that this alternative may be the best option for keeping the ECC open and offering these specialized services to Washington, DC and surrounding areas.

I have enjoyed a long, wonderful relationship with the ECC, from the founder, Elsa Miller, to long-time Executive Director Alan Korz, to its current CEO Stefanie Nash, who I have known personally and

professionally for many years. I can say, without reservation, that Ms Nash will carry on the mission envisioned by Ms Miller, and the rich legacy of service, treatment and advocacy for children. I am very aware of efforts made by all of them to maintain a positive relationship with neighbors, surrounding schools, and within the community. Ms Nash will carry on the legacy of the ECC by continuing to be a thoughtful, good neighbor and an advocate for the community.

As with any change, there will be much to navigate for this plan to work to the benefit of most involved. This alternative appears to be the best to allow options for neighbors to access the facility and for the ECC to continue its long, rich history of serving the needs of children and their families.

I strongly support this partnership in an effort to keep the ECC open to once again serve the ever-increasing educational needs of our children with emotional and academic challenges. I look forward to the continuing discussions in your endeavor to come to an equitable solution.

This letter was not solicited by the ECC or Maret.

Sincerely,  
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