Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Lauryl Jackson < lauryljackson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 11:37 AM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Cc: Husband; jlewisgeorge@dccouncil.us

Subject: SUPPORT LETTER BZA Application No. 20643: Maret School Athletic Fields Project

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Dear Chairman Hill,

I write this statement in full support of the Maret fields project at the Episcopal Center for Children. I am a parent of two children at Maret and am a longtime volunteer with the school's Parent Association. Maret values its 110th history in Washington, DC and seeks to be an active member of the city at large.

Please support Maret's desire to make these new fields available to as many Washington children as possible through its rentals to DC youth athletic organizations. These organizations are important to our community and require greater access to multipurpose fields and baseball diamonds that are well made, well maintained, and not susceptible to cancellations because of rain. Maret understands this need and wants to support the missions of these organizations. This proposed plan is not a means to make money, but rather, an extension of Maret's commitment to being an engaged, good neighbor in the Washington community.

Inspired by its mission-commitment to the community, the school has developed long-standing relationships with dozens of organizations in the District through its Community Engagement Program. This program challenges the traditional service model with intentional, reciprocal relationships that create challenging and meaningful engagement for our students and benefit the wider DC community. Martha's Table, Anacostia River Project, Mazique Early Childhood Program, A Wider Circle, DC Central Kitchen, and Thrive DC are just a few of the organizations that work closely with Maret and its students. Additionally for over 20 years Maret has hosted the six-week Horizons enrichment program on its campus, rent free. Each year, Maret offers its field and gyms to outside community groups (including DC Stoddert Soccer, MPD Soccer, Flagstar Football, and Boys & Girls Club Basketball) for over 1500 hours annually.

Maret has demonstrated time and again it's integrity as a partner to many nonprofits and organizations that serve our Washington, DC community. I know that they will be respectful, exceptional, and generous stewards of this site and these fields.

Thank you,

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