

Cochran, Patricia (DCOZ)

From: Max Norton <mbn35@georgetown.edu>
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2022 5:39 PM
To: DCOZ - BZA Submissions (DCOZ)
Subject: BZA Application No. 20643: Maret School Athletic Fields Project

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Chairman Frederick Hill

My name is Max Norton. I am writing in support of the Maret School Athletic Fields Project. I am a third-generation lifelong DC resident. I attended Maret from 6th grade through the end of high school and I now attend Georgetown University as a student-athlete playing football. Undoubtedly, my time spent playing football at Maret was the most important thing for me developmentally growing up. As a kid entering high school with few friends and little academic motivation, the environment fostered by Coach Engelberg ended up being the only thing that kept me going as I attempted to navigate the rigorous school. My time as a member of the Maret football team afforded me the opportunity to make lifelong friends and push myself to limits I could never imagine, both academically and athletically. My class on the football team at Maret finished our careers as the winningest class in school history. We won two city championships as well as winning over 70 percent of the games we played. More importantly, we learned lessons and skills about teamwork and accountability that will serve us for the rest of our lives. We did all of this despite only having 30 players and more importantly, no football field. Every single practice and every single game we were at a competitive disadvantage to our peers. Most days, we were limited to around 20 yards of field space because we were sharing the field at Maret with up to 5 other teams. I could not be more excited that the next generation of football players at Maret have the opportunity to have their own home field. It is truly a game-changer and I can not wait to see how this facility will help in changing even more lives for the better as a part of Coach Engelberg's amazing program. I urge you to approve this project, as this next generation deserves to have an even better experience than the amazing one I had playing football at Maret.

Thank you for your consideration,
Max Norton

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