

From: [Mark Honey](#)
To: [Historic District Commission \(Staff\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Detroit Waldorf School Outdoor Classrooms (today"s meeting)
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 7:34:47 AM

Mark Honey
PE instructor and Athletic Director
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Dear City Council members,
DWS designed and built (community volunteers) 14 outdoor wooden classrooms during the summer of 2020, to make it more possible for our school to remain open for in-person learning for the 2020-21 school year. It worked! We had more in-person school days, I believe, than any other school in Michigan.

We continue to use these structures for outdoor classes daily and whenever possible. But they are now also used for festivals and outdoor music, plays, storytelling and other events that are open to the school community, and in a future post covid - to the historic Indian Village community. Mosaic Youth Theatre recently used our grounds to put on an outdoor play!

The world is changing. Indian Village is an incredible community and DWS has been part of it for many decades. We had to change due to covid. The changes have had a positive effect. The structures are beautiful and well kept. DWS plays a vital role in the health of the Indian Village community. We simply make it better. The well-being and health of our school community directly affects the entire Historic Indian Village community. These are historic times, and we are part of that changing history. The outdoor classrooms are now a vital PART OF US!

I have been the PE instructor and Athletic Director at DWS for 35 years, and have always lived in Detroit. I love my city, love DWS, dedicated over 160 hours to help build these beautiful structures, and hope you folks will act to enable us to continue in our efforts to educate our children, and to continue to provide positive benefits to the Historic Indian Village community. Please do the right thing and take action to approve our beautiful outdoor classrooms as permanent structures! Detroit needs us. We need Detroit NOW! . Indian Village cannot stand alone... times change and we all need to change with them. We all need each other!

PLEASE approve this
sincerely,
Mark A Honey

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