## **Letter of Support for the Waldorf School Outdoor Classrooms**

Dear Historic District Commission member!

My husband, our daughter and I live in Indian Village at 2233 Iroquois around the corner from Detroit Waldorf School (DWS). My daughter attends the DWS since she was three. The reason we live here is because of the school, our great neighbors and all the benefits it brings to our lives. While we arrived here only five years ago, we feel deeply connected with the neighborhood and the school itself. Last year my non-profit K.OSS Contemporary Art presented a series of outdoor music concerts in the park here in Indian Village: https://www.kossgallery.com/events

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to support the Waldorf School students, faculty members and surrounding community in their effort to preserve its outdoor classrooms erected during the pandemic. Those outdoor classrooms were truly the best thing that happened during the pandemic. They allowed the entire school to remain open and continue the in-person education which is very important for kids in these formative years. Though with their masks on, kids had a unique chance to remain kids enjoying outdoors and interacting with their best friends throughout those trying times. We observed very positive outcome of this decision.

But why demolish something that has such a positive effect on the kids' lives and the surrounding communities? Even though we seemed to leave the most difficult times of the pandemic behind us these classrooms may continue playing their positive role in the community. What if another pandemic will force us to close the indoor classes again? The outdoor classrooms shall remain open.

My husband volunteered for the school during the classroom construction. He can attest that the outdoor classrooms were built from the most sustainable and environmentally friendly material available. Thanks for the architectural work done by the fellow Waldorf parents the classrooms blend nicely with the surrounding neighborhood.

We must preserve the outdoor classrooms, so every kid can continue benefiting from the best form of education possible through a direct connection with outdoor and mother nature.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,

Kristina Oss 2233 Iroquois St Detroit, MI 48214

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