



Saint Paul Federation of Teachers

Organizing for Excellence

Teach • Lead • Inspire • Hope • Advocate • Agitate • Organize • Join.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Saint Paul Federation of Teachers believes that all students deserve high quality, inclusive learning environments, no matter who they are, where they live, or where they go to school.

This has not necessarily been the case at the lower campus of Linwood Monroe Arts Plus, but we feel fortunate that there is a plan in place to change that. This is a plan that our members at Linwood—teachers and paraprofessionals who are in front of students every day and know what their learning needs are—support and have had input on. This is the plan that parents from around the city who send their students to Linwood want and need for their students. As a union, we have always felt that these are the people who should have the most say in what happens to their school—parents and teachers, the people who know our students best.

Our members are concerned that too many outside interests have had influence on our schools, telling teachers and families what should happen with their school, rather than asking. We feel this has led to racial inequalities in our buildings and racial discrepancies in outcomes across the district. The plan for Linwood was put together with input from its teachers and families. The Saint Paul Federation of Teachers hopes the City Council will listen to the people who know our students' needs best and reject this appeal and allow the improvements to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to begin.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise Rodriguez". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Denise Rodriguez
President
Saint Paul Federation of Teachers