

Dear Councilmember Noecker, Saint Paul City Council and Mayor Coleman,

I'm writing as a Summit Hill resident, a neighbor of the Linwood Monroe lower campus in question, a parent of a Linwood Monroe 6th grader and an expert in educational policy who teaches in teacher education at the University of Minnesota.

Let me tell you what I saw tonight when I picked my daughter up from softball practice at school: There was a crowd of middle school kids milling about next to my car, joking and laughing, in the unseasonably warm weather. I was struck by how there are kids of so many ethnicities here, some student with developmental delays in the mix, kids leaving what appears to be band practice, play practice, track practice, drumming practice. I saw a girl wearing a track suit and a hijab with a bright red sun visor over it run up to the door, and a Hmong family opened it for her. Then a man wearing a West African dress shirt gave a girl who is white a high five as she jumped off a retaining wall on her way to get to her ride. This school community is vibrant, positive, affirming and working hard to educate and care for all students and families - it has been incredibly successful for students from all backgrounds. My daughter is one of three LMAP sixth graders going on to the state competition for Minnesota History Day. She is also learning to play softball in a welcoming environment, mentored by kind 7th and 8th graders as well as excellent and caring teachers. She has dance class with a student in a wheelchair, and she discusses what a powerful experience that is for her. I know some obstructionists have suggested that these students go elsewhere and find a different school, but this is truly a school home to so many, and a place for all of us in St. Paul to be proud of and support. The changes are reasonable and incredibly urgent, and they have passed scrutiny at all levels. Continued obstruction is an affront to public schooling in St. Paul, our community's values, these kids and families.

Please do the right thing and give your support to Linwood Monroe.

Sincerely,

Laura Wangsness Willemsen
11xx Lincoln Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105

To whom it may concern,

I attended SPPS my whole life, and graduated in 2010. I was grateful for the experience that I had in the SPPS system. I am writing because I believe that the upgrades and expansion to Linwood are necessary. It is important for students to have proper space to learn and grow. It would be an embarrassment to the school system and a detriment to the students if you let neighbors who are worried about losing their green space and noisy construction control the future of the school. Please consider the students.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kate

From: Jeffrey raich [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:26 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Jeffrey raich

Email:

Address: 8xx Osceola

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a Summit Hill neighbor, Business owner in summit hill

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century.

The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey raich

From: Elizabeth Wefel

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:24 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Please support LMAP

Rebecca,

Good morning! Neighborhood disputes are always challenging. Though I believe the City Council should listen to affected neighbors, when making decisions it's important to look at what is best for all of St. Paul. That's why as a neighbor who lives just two blocks from the Linwood Monroe school, I ask that you support the proposed expansion and reject the latest appeal from others in our neighborhood.

Although I appreciate that they are concerned about loss of some green space, I think the added educational benefits from the expansion outweigh those concerns. Moreover, we have an enormous city park just blocks away at Linwood Rec. This proposal has been through so many layers of approval. Please let this go forward in the most expeditious manner possible.

Best,

Liz

(Elizabeth Wefel)

From: Jessica Matter
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:00 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Zoning Decision

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring it's buildings into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

A zone two neighbor,

Jessica Matter

From: Jessica Bandelin [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 6:56 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Jessica Bandelin

Email Address:

Address: 12xx Sargent Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55105

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul, Friend of LMAP families

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Jessica Bandelin

From: Rhonie Waldron [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 6:08 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Rhonie Waldron

Email Address:

Address: 3xx Goodrich Ave, St Paul 55102

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Rhonie Waldron

From: Leah Owens

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:57 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Linwood expansion

Hello,

As a mother of a 1st grader who attends Linwood Elementary, I am saddened to see the necessary expansion met with neighborhood opposition. I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to allow the school to meet the needs of all of its students.

Thank you,

Leah Owens

4xx Belvidere Street East

From: Linda Zwicky [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:12 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Linda Zwicky

Email Address:

Address: 10xx Saint Clair Ave

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Finding another site to meet the needs of a neighborhood school is not as easy as BZA member Diane Trout-Oertel makes it sound when defending her vote to appeal the LMAP expansion.

Everyone likes sunlight in their home. And we all want to live in a community that thrives. I feel that a public school system that meet the needs of all makes or breaks a community. The quality of education we provide our children is an investment in our future. To do this we must have the facilities in which to operate. I don't think many people were thinking about sunlight and open space when the decision was made to put the freeway through the Rondo neighborhood. Let's do the right thing for our current student body and students that will come in the future and vote to support the expansion of the LMAP Lower campus.

Sincerely,

Linda Zwicky

From: Christy T Shirley [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:50 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Christy T Shirley

Email Address:

Address: 11xx Lincoln Ave; St. Paul, MN 55105

Relationship to LMAP: a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Christy T Shirley

From: Dionne Reinhart [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:44 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Dionne Reinhart

Email Address:

Address: 9xx Juno Ave St Paul, MN 55102

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

With your long history in education and school equity I'm confident that you will support the two barriers that have been granted to Linwood Monroe Arts to make both campuses, which educate one of the more unique and diverse populations in SPPS, equitable to other schools in the state. Thank you, again, for your dedication, hard work and support of this amazing school in your ward!

Sincerely,

Dionne Reinhart

From: Lyndon Shirley [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:42 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Lyndon Shirley

Email Address:

Address: 11xx Lincoln Ave

Relationship to LMAP: a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will

create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,
Lyndon Shirley

From: Krista Michaelis [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:12 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Krista Michaelis
Email Address:

Address: 5xx State St. Saint Paul, MN 55107

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP employee, a supporter of public education in St. Paul, Parent of SPS students

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Krista Michaelis

From: Jennifer Blanchard [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 8:53 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Jennifer Blanchard
Email Address:

Address: 2xx Dunlap Street South

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Blanchard

From: Noah Holm [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 8:50 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Noah Holm

Email Address:

Address: 1x Winona St W

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul, ... oldest daughter may start at LMAP in the fall

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,
Noah Holm

From: Heather Clary
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:41 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Variance requests for the Linwood Campus expansion

Dear Council-member Noecker,

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Kind regards,
Heather Clary

From: Gina McCabe
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:37 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Gina McCabe
Email Address:
Address: 11xx Lincoln Ave
Relationship to LMAP: a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul
I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.
Sincerely,
Gina McCabe

From: Kelly Nelson [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:26 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Kelly Nelson
Email Address:
Address: West Seventh Resident 55102
Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul, SPPS employee
I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the

dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Kelly Nelson

From: sarah milazzo [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:59 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: sarah milazzo

Email Address:

Address: 9xx St. Clair Ave

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
sarah milazzo

From: Clevea Jobe [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:01 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Cleva Jobe

Email Address:

Address: 1xx Elm Street

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Cleva Jobe

Dear Council Members

I strongly SUPPORT the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring the Linwood campus building into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to support these variances.

I wonder what opposition St. Paul Academy (SPA) faced when they built the Huss Center for the Performing Arts, a state-of-the-art performance facility, which opened in the fall of 2015? The Huss Center encompasses almost 35,000 square feet on the west side of SPA's Randolph Campus.

SPA is in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood.

Also, at SPA a 39,000-square-foot math and science addition to the school's grade 6-12 campus at 1712 Randolph Ave. in St. Paul is under construction now. The school's 1928 east wing addition will be demolished.

Curious,

Ed Williams, Jr.

From: Diane Wallace-Reid [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:56 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Diane Wallace-Reid

Email Address:

Address: 20xx Thure Ave., 55116

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Diane Wallace-Reid

From: Mark Blegen [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:03 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Mark Blegen

Email Address:

Address: 14xx Sargent Avenue, St. Paul

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper

school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

As an associate dean at St. Catherine University, I have been involved in education for over 20 years. In that time I have seen first hand the value of diversity and the powerful and positive impacts it has on a neighborhood. By allowing the LMAP expansion to proceed, after much thoughtful negotiating and process with ALL stakeholders, you will be securing not only the future of the students who attend, but for the neighbors who now vehemently oppose.

Sincerely,
Mark Blegen

From: Jill Johnson [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 12:42 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Jill Johnson

Email Address:

Address: 16xx Hartford Ave 55116

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Jill Johnson

From: Marta Shore [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:25 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Marta Shore

Email Address:

Address: 6xx Warwick Street

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

My child goes to Expo Elementary, and benefits from having a public school that is accessible to all and has space to exercise and grow. Every student in St Paul should have the same benefits. Please uphold the variances and allow St Paul Public Schools to serve the students in St Paul.

Sincerely,

Marta Shore

From: Kate Siess [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 8:34 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Kate Siess

Email Address:

Address: 10xx Cleveland Ave S St. Paul MN 55116

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

I was a SPPS student. I graduated in 2010. I value all of the representatives who in the past worked hard to support students like me. Now, I hope that you will support the current SPPS

students by ensuring that they have a proper place to learn and grow. Thank you for advocating for the SPPS children.

Sincerely,

Kate Siess

From: Katherine Siess
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 8:39 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council
Cc: Coleman, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Support the Linwood Monroe School upgrades and expansion

To whom it may concern,

I attended SPPS my whole life, and graduated in 2010. I was grateful for the experience that I had in the SPPS system. I am writing because I believe that the upgrades and expansion to Linwood are necessary. It is important for students to have proper space to learn and grow. It would be an embarrassment to the school system and a detriment to the students if you let neighbors who are worried about losing their green space and noisy construction control the future of the school. Please consider the students.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kate

From: Kook Pyo Hong [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:08 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Kook Pyo Hong

Email Address:

Address: 6xx Snelling Avenue South, St. Paul, MN 55116

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Kook Pyo Hong

From: Julie Kendle [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 4:10 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Julie Kendle

Email Address:

Address: 12xx Hartford Ave.

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Thank you so much for giving your attention that means so much to our family!

Sincerely,

Julie Kendle

From: Tanya Modelli [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:00 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Tanya Modelli

Email Address:

Address: 9xx Scheffer Ave. Saint Paul 55102

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, an LMAP employee, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper

school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

I am both a parent and an teacher at linwood Monroe Arts Plus. Our children deserve to have buildings where they can thrive and grow as a community of learners. We service a wide range of children who come from various backgrounds. It is not uncommon for my classroom To have more than 8 different home languages. As a parent, the arts focus has helped my two children to grow and thrive. They see that school is fun, that they can learn through a variety of ways, but we need the space to do it. Please support our much needed expansion.

Sincerely,

Tanya Modelli

From: Jeanne Jacobson [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:11 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Jeanne Jacobson

Email Address:

Address: xx be hill rd. St. Paul man 55105

Relationship to LMAP: a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Jacobson

From: Caitlin Bailey

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:27 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Cc: Westenhofer, Sean (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Public Hearing-Linwood-Monroe Expansion

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

I am writing to ask that you uphold the Board of Zoning Appeals' zoning decision to approve a variance for the Linwood-Monroe expansion project. As a neighbor to the school, a public educator, and a parent of a kindergartner who will attend LMAP in the fall, it is clear that the needs of the students who attend the school will be denied if the expansion project does not move forward. I have read the April 12th, 2016 letter to the school board from the Linwood Neighborhood Friends and find that their reasoning is faulty. They point to environmental factors and neighborhood relations as negative impacts. They also make the stretch to say that the students who attend the school will not be served by the reduction of green space, therefore, outdoor play space. We live in a city where more than half of the school year is regularly

susceptible to weather conditions that do not allow outdoor playtime. Currently, the school combines indoor gym, cafeteria, and performance space together, leaving only one day a week when students can get intentional indoor physical play activity. Most teachers try to offset this with movement in the classroom. If anything, Linwood Neighborhood Friends should be concerned with the limitations of a 20 minute recess, not green space. I find that their arguments are a thinly veiled complaint that the expansion of the school would negatively impact property values and provide an inconvenience during construction. If open, green space is truly a concern for our neighbors, there is a large, open, and green space a few blocks away at Linwood Park.

Though we have not yet started our experience as parents of an LMAP student, the teachers and administrators that we have met are caring, dedicated, and want the best for their students. The building is too small, needs repair, and is doing the best it can while it waits for the city to come through. Please support this expansion and work with the other Councilmembers to get this important work done.

Caitlin Bailey
2xx Milton St S
St. Paul, MN 55105

From: Karolina Chao
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:59 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Subject: Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) approved (LMAP)

Dear Councilmember Rebecca Noecker,

I strongly support the two variance granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to as well

Brgrds

Lily K. Sandoval

From: Kristin Schroeder [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 6:33 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Kristin Schroeder

Email Address:

Address: 14xx Sargent Avenue, St. Paul

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a

number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Kristin Schroeder

From: Kate Ostrem [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 4:24 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Kate Ostrem

Email Address:

Address: 18xx Princeton Ave

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Chris, it's time for us to give the kids at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus the building they deserve.

Please don't let a few loud people get in the way of doing the right thing.

Sincerely,

Kate Ostrem

From: Carolyn Carlson [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 6:09 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Carolyn Carlson

Email Address:

Address: 13xx Earl St. St Paul

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul, Supporter of arts in public schools

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Carlson

From: Sean & Carolyn

Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:23 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6; #CI-StPaul_Ward1; #CI-StPaul_Ward2; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward5

Subject: Linwood Monroe Arts Plus Plans

Dear St. Paul City Council Members:

I'm writing to ask for your support of the Linwood Monroe Arts Plus improvement plans. As a parent of children at LMAP and a resident of St.

Paul's Eastside, I know this is an important project for St. Paul students.

Accessibility for all students, improved teaching and learning, and getting the minimum physical environments that all students deserve are at stake.

In order to get these improvements done, please support the city's approval of the variances requested. Please also note these variances are similar to prior approved variances requested by other schools in St. Paul. The architects of the plans and LMAP administration have done a great job of responding to objections made, revised the plans, and come up with a wonderful final plan that will address what kids need for a great learning environment and be an asset to the community.

Thank you for your time!

Respectfully,

Carolyn Carlson

From: Sean Kavaney
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 5:39 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6
Subject: Linwood Monroe Arts Plus Variance

Dear council member Bostrom,

My name is Sean Kavaney and I have lived at Earl and Ivy for 17 years and our children attend Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. Please support the two variances, just as the teachers union and NAACP do. The school needs work and the neighborhood concerns are minimal, it is almost as if they just do not want more public education in the neighborhood (St Paul Academy got there variances without contention.)

Please support your constituents, support the variance.

Sean Kavaney
13xx Earl Street

From: Stephanie Hubbard [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 8:35 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Stephanie Hubbard

Email Address:

Address: 27xx Hilo Ave N

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP employee, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century.

The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Hubbard

From: Adan Martinez

Email Address:

Address: 17xx Hague Avenue St. Paul MN, 55104

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Sincerely,
Adan Martinez

From: Shirley Jonas

Email Address:

Address:

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Shirley Jonas

Good Afternoon Council member Stark,

I want to take a minute to strongly encourage you to support the variances granted to LMAP school. The school desperately needs the additional space to provide for indoor recreation, increased handicap accessibility, increased Special Service programming areas along with additional educational updates. The school has a long tradition of serving and enriching the neighborhood.

My son has attended the school since Kindergarten. He is now in the eighth grade. My son is in the Special Services program (formerly Special Education). Even though he lost busing services under Valeria Silvia tenure, we opted to continue to drive him each way to the school because of the Arts Programming the school offers. Linwood Monroe is an Art Magnet. The benefits of the Arts Programming served for our son's atypical learning needs. The school is a gem for the St Paul district.

The school's physical building updates will only allow the site to continue to serve the neighborhood, the students and our city in a more effective and inclusive fashion.

Sincerely,

Heidi Hess Jensen

23xx Commonwealth Ave

St Paul

55108

From: Jason Johnson
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 12:22 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3
Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Reject the Appeal of Variances Granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus

Dear Councilmember Tolbert,

I'm writing today as a constituent from the Highland Park neighborhood, as well as a parent of an early childhood student and a first grader at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

Linwood Monroe Arts Plus (LMAP) is a jewel of the Saint Paul Public Schools. Though its lower campus is located in one of the most affluent and white communities in Saint Paul, it is a very diverse school, with roughly 2/3rds minority students, 1/3 English language learners, and 2/3rds of students qualifying for free or reduced lunch. It is a Language Academy school, designated as one of the schools in your ward that serves children who are new to our country. My own daughter's school experience and frankly, her life, has been greatly enriched by this diversity and especially by her close friends from Somalia. She has become a kind and understanding citizen of the world, helping children who don't even speak a word of English make their way in school, often their first formal education of any kind. This certainly wouldn't have been possible in the affluent and all white schools my wife and I attended.

It is exactly this sort of opportunity and this sort of school that our city should support. It not only makes Saint Paul better in these difficult times, but it makes an incalculable investment in our combined future.

Education and educational facilities are of the utmost importance. While the teachers and administrators make sure that my daughters and all of the students at LMAP receive the best arts-infused education possible, their facilities are woefully inadequate. SPPS has recognized this shortcoming and stands ready to do what is necessary to make the building match the teachers and students inside it. Parents and community members wholeheartedly support this plan. Saint Paul Public Schools has gone far and beyond to engage the community with its Facilities Master Plan (FMP), receiving the 2016 Core Values Award for Respect for Diversity, Inclusion, & Culture from the International Association for Public Participation. Specific to the LMAP plan, neighbors were invited through their neighborhood association to participate in the FMP process, then engaged again through a series of public meetings, individual meetings, and working groups, resulting in multiple plan revisions, that have, in all honesty, made this a much better plan.

The Heritage Preservation Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Planning and Economic Development, and the Board of Zoning Appeals have all reviewed this project and have concluded that it is appropriate and meets all city ordinances and requirements for granting variances. All of this despite strong pressure by a small, but vocal, group of obstructionists to find to the contrary.

The children of LMAP deserve true accessibility and modern facilities. We owe it to this school, to its teachers and students, and especially to its children with mobility difficulties, to not simply make it accessible to the letter of the law with band-aid fixes, but actually accessible. No longer should students have to navigate steps to use the bathroom or be prevented from taking the inaccessible stage during performances with their classmates. The wheelchairs for these kids should fit in their classrooms, as should teacher's desks, as should the kids themselves. A person in a wheelchair or walker shouldn't have to walk all the way around the building to find get to the gymnasium or playground. When children visit the nurse's office, they deserve an actual office with a door, not simply a closet or a makeshift curtain in the administration area.

No longer should Kindergartners be forced to wear the coats inside during the winter months. Lunch should happen in a cafeteria, not the gym or auditorium. And bad weather should not relegate kids to their classrooms for recess, just so lunch can be served. Children who need extra one-on-one with special education or ELL teachers should not be relegated to makeshift tables in the hallways.

A modern playground, a properly configured play field, and an increase in combined indoor/outdoor play space should not be prevented simply because some fear change. Saint Paul Public Schools should be free to align the two Pre K-8 campuses in a way that is best for learning and for giving everyone enough room. They shouldn't be stopped in this mission simply because someone thinks that the existing height of the building that has been there since 1922 is not acceptable. Whether LMAP Lower has a 4th grade or not, any building addition must be the same height. Without a variance, there is also no room for the third graders and special education rooms disappear too. Move these kids, and any two story addition will be taller than the 30 feet allowed under code. To have appellants suggesting this sort of ridiculous compromise is not them being reasonable. It is simply an attempt to erode the integrity of LMAP's building so that "those kids" will just go away.

I trust that it is readily obvious to you and to other members of the City Council that this appeal is nothing more than an attempt to continue the already year-long delay of this much needed project. The precedent of granting variances for all schools, public or private (including those for the Saint Paul Academy Upper Campus in my neighborhood) would seem to support this and show that the City Council values education as not only a right for all people, but also as a means for making Saint Paul better. Despite attempts at reinterpretation of ordinances, all facts of this case have been correctly determined and procedures have been followed and the appeal should be denied. The children of LMAP deserve no less.

Thank you so much for your continued service for Ward 3 and Saint Paul.

Best Regards,
Jason Johnson
16xx Hartford Ave.

From: Lisa Roe
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:31 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1
Subject: Please support the Linwood Monroe School upgrades and expansion

Hello, Mr. Thao:

As a Ward 1 resident, I have never contacted you directly, but I support our public schools and I'm disgusted to learn that a few residents that live near Linwood Monroe have had an outsized and obstructive influence in the plans for the school's upgrades and expansion. I feel that they think their wealth and privilege entitle them to hijack this process. They are thinking only of themselves, not of our city's school children. Please support our area kids and their parents at the meeting on April 5 by supporting this school's improvement plans.

Thank you for your time and service,

Lisa Roe
7xx Dayton Ave

From: Diana Wangsness [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:26 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Diana Wangsness

Email Address:

Address: 14xx Ashland Ave--St Paul

Relationship to LMAP: a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul,
LMAP Grandparent

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Having moved to St Paul a few years ago I am in love with St Paul and all it offers. Number one is the fantastic education I see my grandchildren receiving. Please support the Linwood Monroe variances. We can not let our community be sabotaged by obstruction. Let it be a vibrant wonderful community that continues to move forward.

Sincerely,

Diana Wangsness

From: Emily Schmidt [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:36 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Emily Schmidt

Email Address:

Address: 15xx Ashland Ave., St. Paul

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major

revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Emily Schmidt

From: Roger Wilson [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:12 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Roger Wilson

Email Address:

Address: 12xx Portland Avenue

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul, a grandparent of Linwood Student

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

I appreciate your continued decision making "for the people" with studied discipline over the few expressing "not in my backyard" at great expense to us all.

Sincerely, Roger Wilson

From: felix buckley-jones [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:22 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: felix buckley-jones

Email Address:

Address: 10xx thomas ave

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul, Nephew to a long time Open School Teacher, cousin to an Open School alum

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all

classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Saint Paul born, raised, and standing. Central '95. No time for anyone standing between children and their much needed school improvements. Give them their variances, fix their school, then go fix another one.

Sincerely,
felix buckley-jones

From: Annie Crawford [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 10:18 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Annie Crawford

Email Address:

Address: 9xx Charles Avenue

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Annie Crawford

From: Amy Moeller

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:32 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Support Linwood Monroe Arts Plus Variences

Dear Dai Thao,

Thank you so much for your work!

I am writing to ask you to please support the variance requests that have been approved by the BZA for Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

I am a proud resident of Saint Paul and I proudly send my son to the Monroe Campus in the Saint Paul School District. Over the past year, I have mostly been observing the process that has played out with regard to the conflict between the district and the neighbors of the Linwood Campus. In the last few months, however, I have studied both sides. As a result, I have become more invested in the process and feel so strongly that I am writing letters and advocating for the school district.

I have studied the neighbors arguments and read their appeal to the city council. I disagree with their points of appeal. Frankly, I find some of their arguments selfish and other arguments completely inaccurate.

I am an educator (not in the SPPS district). I have worked in education for the past 26 years as a teacher and as a curriculum and staff development coordinator. I carry both a teaching and an administrative license and I am especially concerned with the opposition's claims that the district can and should be making other decisions about how to assign schools to buildings and how to assign grade levels to buildings. Linwood Monroe is a K-8 school that happens to share two buildings; this makes it a unique program philosophically. As an educator, I am offended by these neighbors, seemingly, caring more about the sunlight in their yards and the size of the school's playground for the kids in the neighborhood than they care for the needs of the school community. I do not agree with the neighbors that the school district can and should make other plans for the buildings and students at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. I believe that smart, thoughtful, dedicated Saint Paul School District employees have worked hard to develop this plan so it will meet the needs of the students, teachers, parents and neighbors; and I fully support this plan. I also disagree that the School District has not, as the opposition claims, asked for and received input from the neighbors about their plans for the renovations. The plans for the Linwood Campus have, in fact, been altered, based on feedback from neighbors, on at least 2 different occasions.

As I shared in a letter sent to you in the new year, I have a record of supporting education and building improvements in my own back yard. I supported the church building tear-down and child care center new-build on Victoria and Hague - within 2 blocks from my back door. My support of Linwood Monroe Arts Plus is about improvements that are necessary for the greater Saint Paul Community.

I ask that you please support the Variences that have been approved for Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

Thank you,

Amy Moeller

8xx Holly Avenue 55104

From: Alina Hornfeldt [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:33 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Alina Hornfeldt

Email Address:

Address: 10xx Thomas Ave W

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Please do not let the classism and racism of this group of people deprive my child and many other deserving children of these improvements to their school. I know you will do the right thing and vote for the children. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Alina Hornfeldt

From: Daniel Schmidt [<mailto:danielsws@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:10 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Update

Hey Dai

I am writing to let you know that I would appreciate your support and influence on the matter of the Linwood Monroe expansion that will be before the city council. This school is doing amazing things under Principal Brian Bass. My daughter attends and we couldn't be happier. The city should throw it's full support behind this expansion. There is a very small vocal group of neighbors, along with the summit hill NA, that have been fighting this every step of the way. The vast majority of neighbors and community members support the expansion. This is an equity issue. Children of color are the majority of this school. Almost all those fighting have kids enrolled at the private school, SPA. All their arguments against fall flat against the facts. If you are interested in hearing more, my sister-in-law Laura Willemssen is very involved and is the person to speak with and I could facilitate that discussion. Let me know. Take care. Thanks again.

Daniel Schmidt
15xx Ashland

From: Craig Turino [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 7:01 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Craig Turino

Email Address:

Address: 7xx Ashland Ave

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Craig Turino

From: Fritz Vandover [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 10:02 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Fritz Vandover

Email Address:

Address:

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances requested by Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Sincerely,

Fritz Vandover

From: Sarah Norby [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:34 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Sarah Norby

Email Address:

Address: 8xx S McKnight Rd

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, an LMAP employee, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a

number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Sarah Norby

From: Danial Davis [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:32 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Danial Davis

Email Address:

Address: 9xx Lafond Avenue

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Danial Davis

From: Jim Crawford [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:55 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Jim Crawford

Email Address:

Address: 8xx Winslow Ave

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul, Grand parent of 3 sweet girls that attend LMAP

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

I am not your constituent, in that I live in Ward 2. But I feel that you are elected to represent the best interests of all of the citizens of St. Paul, especially our children. That's why I am taking the time to urge you to do the right thing and support this expansion. it's the right thing to do for our kids, for our city, for our future. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jim Crawford

From: Patrick Burke [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 11:14 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Patrick Burke

Email Address:

Address: 2xx Bates Ave St Paul, MN 55106

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school

environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Patrick Burke

From: Ailie Deloia [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:41 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Ailie Deloia

Email Address:

Address: 6x W Sandra Lee Dr

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe needs in order to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making two major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Ailie Deloia

From: Marianne Milligan
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 3:46 PM
To: sean.westenhofer@ci.stpaul.mn.su
Cc: #CI-StPaul_Ward1; #CI-StPaul_Ward2; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward5; #CI-StPaul_Ward6; #CI-StPaul_Ward7; jon.schumacher@spps.org; zuki.ellis@spps.org; chue.vue@spps.org; steven.marchese@spps.org; john.brodrick@spps.org; mary.vanderwert@spps.org; jeanelle.foster@spps.org; John.Thein@spps.org
Subject: Variance requests 1023 Osceola (Linwood School)

Dear Mr. Westenhofer,
Please accept the attached letter and forward it to the members of the Board of Zoning Appeals regarding the variance requests for 1023 Osceola Ave (Linwood School).

Thank you,
Marianne Milligan

From: Gretchen Long [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 5:36 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2
Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Gretchen Long

Email Address:

Address: 5xx Robert St S

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,
Gretchen Long

From:**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 10:22 PM**To:** #CI-StPaul_Ward2**Cc:** *CI-StPaul_Contact-Council**Subject:** Please support the LMAP Project

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

I write in favor of the very important work that needs to be done at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus (LMAP).

I am part of a large and very active group of LMAP parents. Many of us have been very involved and aware of the many different actions that have taken place for more than 12 months now. I understand the concerns of the neighbors who oppose this project. However, I also know of many neighbors (some of whom do not have children at LMAP) who are in support of the project. To the point, were I in their shoes, I am very confident that I would have initially shared some of their concerns, in the long run, and after numerous changes to respond to the opponents' concerns, I would agree to the variances. Simply put, the pros far outweigh the cons. And of course, the variance request meets all the legal requirements for approval.

There are many things I could talk about in this letter, but I know there are many people writing. So I will keep this brief and to the point. We could not find a single instance in the history of zoning variances where a school's request for a variance was denied. I also believe that this variance request, if denied, would likely set a bad precedent for years to come. The changes are needed, not only for my children but for future children that will attend this school. And it will also matter for children across the city as other variances will certainly be needed as the schools are modernized.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Singer
2xx Duke St

From: Jennifer Hansen

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 6:50 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6

Subject: Linwood Expansion

Dear Council Member Bostrom

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. Especially for children in Special Education who deserve accessible facilities. As a supporter

of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to as well. I am also a resident for Ward 6 with two children at Linwood.

Thank you
Jennifer Hansen
Special Olympics MN
Senior Manager for Youth and Schools

From: Barb Herrington-Hall [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 8:34 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Barb Herrington-Hall

Email Address:

Address: 14xx Sheldon St. St. Paul, MN 55108

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

So many times our district struggles to find the money in our budget for improvements to our learning spaces. In this case, the money is there and the district is ready to start. Please, support the variance so work can go ahead and this building can be fully accessible for all students.

Sincerely,

Barb Herrington-Hall

From: Chuck Gillen-O'Neel [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 10:11 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Chuck Gillen-O'Neel

Email Address:

Address: 6xx Laurel Ave

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that

Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Chuck Gillen-O'Neel

From: Deirdre McKiernan
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 2:47 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1
Subject: LMAP -Campus expansion

Dear Councilmember Thao,

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. As my councilmember I encourage you too to support public education and all of our students in Saint Paul.

Thank you,

Deirdre McKiernan
12xx Laurel Avenue
St Paul, MN
55104

From: Benjamin.Hansen
Sent: Sunday, April 02, 2017 9:53 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward6
Subject: Linwood Expansion

Dear Council Member Bostrom

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. Especially for children in Special Education who deserve accessible facilities. As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to as well. I am also a resident for Ward 6 with two children at Linwood.

Thank you,

Ben Hansen

From: Steve Heitzeg
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 6:46 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Subject: Support for Linwood Monroe School upgrade and expansion

Dear Council Member Stark,

I hope things are well with you.

I simply wanted to respectfully ask if you would please support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. I am hopeful that you will.

Our daughter is a sixth grader there and it is a very positive place with many inspiring and dedicated teachers and staff.

I grew up a dairy farm in a small town in southern MN and our grandparents on my mom's side lived in a cute house across from the town's only public school k-12. They loved it and the vitality, hope and opportunity it offered everyone. Why a person would not want to see a school thrive or get improvements, I don't understand.

As the great Paul Wellstone said so poignantly: "We all do better when we all do better."

Thanks you for your service to the community and for taking time to listen.

All best,
Steve Heitzeg

From: Pappas, Gwen
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:34 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Subject: Linwood Monroe--let's go!

Dear Councilmember Stark,

I'm a Ward 4 constituent whose daughter is a sixth grader at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. We've been really pleased by what we've experienced at Monroe—committed teachers, great principal, good camaraderie among students.

As a new member of the Linwood Monroe community, I've spent time studying the proposed school expansion plans at both Linwood and Monroe—and followed the dissent among some Linwood neighbors. We've been impressed by how responsive, respectful and proactive SPPS has been in addressing neighbor concerns and developing a compromise plan.

Now it is time to end the back and forth and move forward with this significant project! St. Paul kids deserve updated, accessible facilities that bring their schools into the 21st century. A handful of vocal neighbors should not be allowed to stifle this project.

We've been residents of St. Paul for almost 20 years, and we see the school district-wide Facilities Master Plan as solid evidence of a city that is investing in its students and intelligently planning for its future. Projects like this keep us firmly rooted in St. Paul.

I hope you will show your support for the Linwood expansion!

Thank you,

Gwen Pappas

Parent of a proud Linwood Monroe student

From: Ellen Olsen [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 1:10 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Ellen Olsen

Email Address:

Address: 12xx Lafond Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55104

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul, Educator concerned with racial equity & accessibility

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Ellen Olsen

From:

Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 6:31 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward2

Subject: Linwood Monroe school variances,

Dear Councilmember

I strongly support the two variance granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century.

As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Eric Smith.

From: Kim Kroetsch
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 8:41 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Subject: Ward 4 Resident in SUPPORT of renovations at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus!

Dear Councilmember Stark,

As a proud resident of Ward 4, I am writing in regards to the disappointing appeal to overturn the Board of Zoning Appeals decision to allow all improvements to the Linwood Campus of Linwood Monroe Arts Plus (1023 Osceola). I fully support the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses and hope that you will, too.

I am a 20 year veteran teacher at the school teaching across both campuses. My husband and I also send our two children to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. We have one child at each campus. Due to my unique role as a teacher and parent in the school, I fully understand the needs of the community.

We are an arts infused program supporting all students. Our population includes a Language Academy Program for new arrivals to our country, as well as a large Developmental and Cognitive Delay Program. With unique programming comes unique need. As a privileged parent in this community, I need to speak up for members of my community who do not have a voice: Those learning English and those with developmental delays. Linwood Monroe Arts Plus students deserve a 21st century facility. The school community needs:

Right size classrooms to meet the standards of MDE guidelines.

Breakout rooms to meet the needs of our many special learners.

Separate cafeteria so that student work in and through the arts can be shared and students have available physical education space in a separate gym/auditorium.

Updated HVAC: students currently suffer from extreme heat and cold due to insufficient mechanicals in the buildings.

Developmentally appropriate separation of students by grade level: Ideally Linwood Campus would be PreK-5 and Monroe Campus 6-8. I understand that compromise is needed due to space constraints, so I am willing to accept PreK-4 together at Linwood even though I do not believe this is best for elementary students in grade 5.

Updated use of existing footprint at Monroe Campus: A centrally located elevator will increase accessibility for our community.

Handicap accessible bathrooms, gym and performance spaces. It is negligible that these are not already in place.

Increased and improved play space: Indoor recess in a gym during lunchtimes is a necessity during inclement and extreme weather in Minnesota. The larger community will also benefit from improved outdoor play space.

It is beyond comprehension that anyone could argue against the needed renovation. I happily invite you to our school to see for yourself how the renovations are needed. I reiterate my support for the renovation across both campuses of Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

Thank you in advance for your support of the children of Saint Paul Public Schools and Linwood Monroe Arts Plus!

Kim Kroetsch
Vocal Music Specialist K-8
Parent of students in grades 1 & 4
Linwood Monroe Arts Plus

Home address:
18xx Laurel Avenue
St Paul, MN 55104

From: Kate Siess

Email Address:

Address: 10xx Cleveland Ave S St. Paul MN 55116

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

I was a SPPS student. I graduated in 2010. I value all of the representatives who in the past worked hard to support students like me. Now, I hope that you will support the current SPPS students by ensuring that they have a proper place to learn and grow. Thank you for advocating for the SPPS children.

Sincerely,
Kate Siess

Dear Mr. Chris Tolbert,

I am writing to ask you to please support the improvements to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus Campuses. As a Saint Paul resident for more than 20 years and a neighbor to the school, I feel it is very important for you to support the two zoning variances that this school has already received. Progress for our community is essential and the arguments in opposition are puzzling to me. I see the improvements to the school as improvements to the neighborhood and to the community at large. I plan to live here at least another 20 years and want to experience and watch how these improvements can only benefit us. Please join me in supporting these variances!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

my best,
Lara Hughes
13xx St. Clair Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105

From: Mary Szondy

Email Address:

Address: 13xx Grand Ave.

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper

school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Please follow longstanding precedent where our city routinely grants reasonable requests for variances to our schools.

Sincerely,
Mary Szondy

From: Sarah Lightner [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:10 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Sarah Lightner

Email Address:

Address: 1xx S. Wheeler St., St. Paul, MN 55105

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Thank you for your continued hard work in St. Paul!

Sincerely,
Sarah Lightner

From: Jill Johnson

Email Address:

Address: 16xx Hartford Ave 55116

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited

mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Jill Johnson

Hi. I reside in your district and my daughter goes to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. LMAP very much needs two zoning variances which it received. Unfortunately, Summit Hill Association members who are using the term "character" to advance their racist, non-in-my backyard self-serving agenda have appealed the zoning decision. All you have to do is see the house of the leaders of the Summit Hill opposition, which required variances, to know character just means racism.

At any rate, the school needs the variances; the education of these amazing children is the priority. My daughter is very creative, not particularly prone to following rules for rules sake, and would not be thriving as she is in any other school. Even though Randolph Heights is our neighborhood school, we chose LMAP because of the unique approach it offers. This school is a gift to St Paul.

Please support the LMAP zoning request. It is essential to the health and well-being of all of St Paul. It is also worth noting that no school zoning variance request has ever been turned down in St. Paul.

Thank you!

Laura Schauben
2xx Hamline Ave S

From: Hughes

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:29 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Support Linwood Monroe Arts!

Dear Mr. Tolbert,

As a parent of students at Highland Park High School, a resident of Saint Paul for more than 20 years and a friend to education, I implore you to support the variance requests for Linwood Monroe Arts Plus Campuses. While I understand that there is a small group of Linwood Campus neighbors who oppose these variances, I am writing so you hear from people who do **not** understand or agree with their concerns. After careful review of this matter, I believe the district has created plans that are in the best interest of students, teachers, parents, neighbors and the community of Saint Paul. Please support these variances.

Thank you very much!

Brian Hughes
13xx St. Clair Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105

From: Kate Ostrem [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 4:24 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Kate Ostrem

Email Address:

Address: 18xx Princeton Ave

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Chris, it's time for us to give the kids at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus the building they deserve. Please don't let a few loud people get in the way of doing the right thing.

Sincerely,

Kate Ostrem

From: Mark Jacobson [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 6:11 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Mark Jacobson

Email Address:

Address: 1x Benhill Road, St. Paul, MN 55105

Relationship to LMAP: a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Mark Jacobson

From: Patrice Rhode

Email Address:

Address: 12xx Goodrich Avenue

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Patrice Rhode

From: Amber Waldo

Email Address:

Address: 14xx Osceola Ave. St. Paul, MN 55105

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

I recently received a pre-k spot at Linwood Monroe, but have been hesitant on taking it because the pre-k students are mixed with the junior high students. This requires the pre-k students to be separated from siblings in the elementary school and not able to be a part of young community. It also requires the pre-k kids to have to transition to a different school for K. I think this school has an amazing community of parents and teachers and the physical limitations of the school itself is holding these children back from their full potential.

Sincerely,

Amber Waldo

Dear Councilmember Tolbert,

I am a parent of a Linwood Monroe Arts Plus student, a voter and a tax payer. I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Krishna Sallman, St Paul, 55105

From: Alison Feigh

Email Address:

Address: 11xx James Ave

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Sincerely,

Alison Feigh

Dear Councilmember Tolbert,

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to as well. My child goes to this school and I truly believe this is a necessary update for these buildings.

Thank you,

Jesse Barber

Ward 3 neighbor

From: Allison Hoffman

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 10:01 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Linwood Monroe expansion support

Hello Mr. Tolbert,

I am writing you in regards to the proposed expansion and upgrade of Linwood Monroe schools. As a resident of St. Paul, I value good education for all. Although my family chose a small montessori school for our kids during the early elementary years, we plan on sending them to St. Paul public schools for the late middle school and high school years. We have relatives and friends who send their children to Linwood Monroe and have nothing but wonderful accolades to report about the schools. We recently toured the Monroe middle school (a year before we would transition) and were incredibly impressed by the quality of the teachers, achievement of the students, and diversity. In fact, my daughter is no longer interested in visiting other schools as she would simply like to attend Monroe! This school is an asset to our community yet is in need of some upgrades. I understand there are neighbors who are opposed to change near their homes, yet I feel the plans have been adjusted in a responsible manner which addresses their concerns yet improves the school for students/faculty. Please support the Linwood Monroe upgrades and expansion.

Sincerely,

Allison Hoffman

From: Karyn Wrenshall [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 11:46 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Karyn Wrenshall

Email Address:

Address: 12xx Lincoln Ave

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP employee, a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Karyn Wrenshall

Sincerely,

Karyn Wrenshall

From: Christina [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 6:38 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Christina

Email Address:

Address: 14xx Birmingham St

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Christina

From: Amanda Halbersma [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 10:00 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Amanda Halbersma

Email Address:

Address:

Relationship to LMAP: a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I strongly support the two variances granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring buildings on both of its campuses into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in St. Paul, I encourage you to as well.

Sincerely,
Amanda Halbersma

From: Chris Wells
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 4:26 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3
Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Appeal of Two Variances Granted to LMAP, 1023 Osceola Ave.

Dear Councilmember Tolbert and the Members of the City Council,

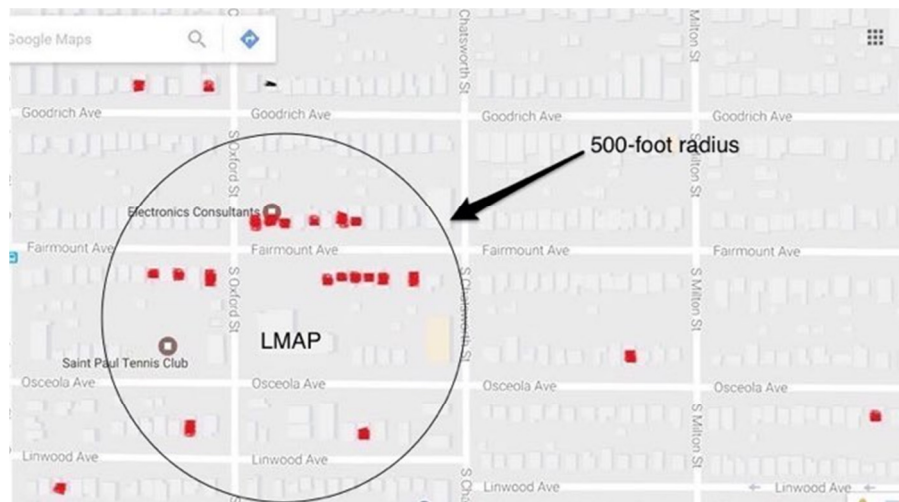
As one of your constituents, and as a parent of three kids at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus, I have been deeply involved in advocating on behalf of the school, and if you read the public record on the project you will see me weigh in on various issues as this lengthy process has unfolded. I will not repeat myself here, but do want to call your attention to a few things:

- I created a short video that uses a 3D model of the proposed building in Google Earth to visualize how the plan will change the site, and to show how far the school has gone to modify the plan to address the concerns of opponents: <http://tinyurl.com/LMAPtour>.
- Working with a large group of other advocates, I helped assemble a timeline of the heroic work of community engagement, consultation, concession, revision, and hoop-jumping that the school district and its architects have done over the last year, in the face of vigorous, continuing obstruction from opponents: <http://tinyurl.com/LMAPTimeline>.
- I have also helped as our group has put together a website to collect information about the project (<http://advocatesforlmap.org>), including a thorough set of FAQs about the project (<http://advocatesforlmap.org/faqs.html>).

If you have not yet examined these resources, I trust that you will now.

When all is said and done, this school-improvement project will likely have undergone more scrutiny by more levels of government than any in Minnesota history in an effort by opponents of the project to do something for which there is literally no precedent in

St. Paul: deny zoning variances to a school. A full EAW, during which both the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission and the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office evaluated and approved the plans, imposed an additional level of review and evaluation. This EAW process speaks directly to the level of “vetting” that the project’s opponents have demanded--and received. Tellingly, although the school has been forced to clear every conceivable procedural hurdle that its opponents could unearth, **the plans have passed each rigorous test with flying colors.**



The truth is that this appeal is a classic case of NIMBY opposition: the signatories include 41 individuals from 27 households, 17 of which are located within 500 feet of LMAP, and 22 of which are located within two blocks. These opponents have already exerted influence over this process well out of proportion to their relative stake in the project. It’s now time to wrap things up and give LMAP’s students the facilities they deserve.

The opposition’s arguments boil down to two major sets of claims, both of which are ultimately rooted in perpetuating profound falsehoods:

1. They claim that they have not been consulted properly, and that their concerns have not been taken seriously. This is a Big Lie, so brazen and so obviously false that it must cause anyone familiar with the project to do a double take. To dismiss this claim, all you must do is review the timeline of events: <http://tinyurl.com/LMAPTimeline>. Of the six demands that Linwood Neighborhood Friends issued a year ago (the last two on their list being essentially the same thing), the school has fully resolved four. The other two--the building’s height, and the number of students enrolled at the Lower Campus--are unreasonable demands for neighbors to make. I address them below.
2. They claim that the project is “too big, too tall, and too much” for the site. Each one of these claims is spurious at best, and dishonest at worst.

- Opponents consider the building “too big” because it will cover 38.5% of the lot rather than the 35% that R4 zoning--designed for houses, not schools--allows without a variance. Yet R4 residential zoning allows a total 40% lot coverage between the main building and an out building. If the school were a house with a garage instead of a school building, no lot coverage variance would even be needed (Sec. 66.232. - Maximum lot coverage). Yet opponents of the project would have you believe that in a neighborhood in which large houses and garages routinely cover 40% of their lots, the school will somehow be “out of harmony” with its surroundings by covering 38.5% of its lot. This amounts to just 2,849 sf more than what is allowed without a variance on a lot measuring 81,288 sf. The BZA (and the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, and the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office) concluded that it was not too big because, in fact, it is *not too big*.
- The claim by opponents that the building is “too tall” is completely flummoxing as well. The variance that the BZA granted is to match the existing height of the building, which has been standing there, at its current height, since 1922. It also happens to be the exact same height as the neighborhood’s other elementary school, St. Paul Academy Lower, which is just two blocks away from LMAP along Fairmount. In a neighborhood that is liberally sprinkled with tall, nonconforming buildings that, like LMAP and SPA, predate the zoning code, it defies both logic and reality to argue that an addition matching the existing 1922 building’s height (and the height of the neighborhood’s other nearby elementary school) would be “too tall” to be in character with the rest of the neighborhood. The BZA (and the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission, and the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office) concluded that the proposed addition is not too tall because, in fact, it is *not too tall*.
- Finally, the claim that shifting 4-year-olds and 9-year-olds from the overcrowded middle school campus will be “too much” for the elementary school site to handle is perhaps the most befuddling claim of all. The fundamental problem on both campuses is that the classrooms are way too small. The new classroom wing at the Lower Campus addresses this problem by providing a sufficient number of classrooms that are adequately sized for 21st-century needs, and moving two grades from the middle school to the elementary school makes it possible to enlarge classrooms there up to standards, too (<http://advocatesforlmap.org/faqs.html#enrollments>). It is difficult to imagine how one can take the imaginative leap from this fact to the conclusion that the school can’t handle extra kids, but the naysayers make just such a leap, concluding that adequately sized classrooms, coupled with a 2.9% increase in dedicated play areas, will somehow serve its children poorly. (For a fuller analysis of how the plans reconfigure play spaces and the school’s outdoor green spaces, see <http://advocatesforlmap.org/green-space-facts.html>). Most puzzling of all, the hand-wringing over larger enrollments is strangely detached from the reality of enrollments in this school over the last half century:

i. 1970: 517

- ii. 1980: 435
- iii. 1990: 335
- iv. 2000: 425
- v. 2010: 363
- vi. 2020: ~425 (after improvements, which include relocating 4 year olds and 9 year olds from the middle school, where they are misplaced, to the elementary school, where they belong)

Here, as with the previous two objections, the BZA determined (and, more importantly, the school district determined, by putting its facilities personnel and its architects in conversation with the school's teachers and administrators, all of whom are actually knowledgeable about the school's needs) that what the school has proposed is not too much because, in fact, it is *not too much*.

It is time to resolve this once and for all, and to allow SPPS to break ground on this project. An entire cohort of LMAP children have already missed out on the benefits of improved facilities as a result of delays to this point. Further delay will deprive yet another cohort of much-needed improvements. I encourage you in the strongest possible terms to uphold the BZA's decision to grant these two variances.

Sincerely,

Christopher W. Wells
14xx Fairmount Ave., 55105

From: Brigitte Carr [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 8:20 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward1

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Brigitte Carr

Email Address:

Address: 11xx Selby Ave.

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first

century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,
Brigitte Carr

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

I'm one of your newest constituents and a future parent at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

I recently took a job in Plymouth. My wife and I looked closely at several schools in the western metro, and all of them were excellent. However, we were drawn to the diversity and arts programming at Linwood Monroe. We liked how our kids could get accelerated programming, yet also experience a mix of children from different backgrounds and different ability levels.

We decided to settle in St. Paul, and rented a house on Lincoln Avenue in Summit Hill. We entered our kids in the lottery for Linwood Monroe and they were accepted! Even though it's a tough commute for me out to Plymouth, I think it's the best thing for my family.

That said, I was dismayed to learn that some neighbors oppose the improvements to Linwood Monroe. (In our past school district in North Carolina, we would have been thrilled to have the funding to upgrade our schools after years of budget cuts and deteriorating facilities and programs!) It certainly smells of racism and classism. I can't imagine that this opposition reflects the majority of Summit Hill residents or the city's values.

Please approve the much-needed improvements at Linwood Monroe. It sends a clear message about commitment to equity on the part of the City of St. Paul.

I look forward to moving to St. Paul and being a part of the commitment to education that Minnesota is famous for.

Sincerely,

Javier de Ana
12xx Lincoln Ave.

Dear Councilmember Noecker,

I am your future constituent, writing to you to ask that you approve the expansion of Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

My husband and I are in the process of moving to St. Paul from Chapel Hill, North Carolina. While the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools is one of the best school districts in North Carolina, our schools have been damaged by systematic state divestment over the past eight years. We are seeing the effects in unsafe facilities, elimination of programs, and inability to fill teacher positions, sometimes well into the third quarter of the school year.

Given our experience in North Carolina, we were delighted to have the opportunity to move to Minnesota, where schools have long been a priority.

We looked at several wealthy school districts in the western metro, where my husband's company is located. However, we liked the walkability and city feeling of St. Paul, and decided to visit several schools there as well. I was incredibly impressed with Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. I toured both the Lower and Upper Campuses, meeting with Principal Bryan Bass at the Upper Campus and Assistant Principal Al Levin at the Lower Campus. I was impressed by the experience, dedication and clear purpose of both administrators. In my tours, I loved the blend of arts and other academic programming, and the attention to the social and emotional needs of the students. I appreciated the opportunity my kids would have to participate in accelerated programs while also being part of a

community that includes children with disabilities and children who are learning English. The diversity of the student body and the commitment to equity on the part of the staff was really exciting to see.

So, despite the long commute to my husband's company in Plymouth, we rented a house on Lincoln Avenue in the Summit Hill neighborhood, and entered the lottery for St. Paul schools. Last week we were delighted to learn that both our 8-year-old and 12-year-old will be attending Lincoln Monroe Arts Plus.

However, we've been very disappointed to hear that there are some neighbors who would deny this school its well-deserved and much-needed improvements. (While I was on the tour, it was clear to me that they need more space -- juggling arts assemblies and cafeteria in one room, for example.) I sincerely hope that these neighbors don't represent the values of St. Paul. To me, this is an equity issue -- providing children from diverse races, ethnic groups and socio-economic status with quality facilities where they can learn.

Please go forward with the improvements to Linwood Monroe. The way this city council votes will put the community's values on display.

I look forward to joining the St. Paul community, and hope that this will be resolved by the time we arrive so that my children can enjoy the public schools and civic mindedness that have made Minnesota famous.

Sincerely,

Sara Skinner
12xx Lincoln Avenue, St Paul, MN

From: Angie Haigh [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 5:37 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Angie Haigh

Email Address:

Address: 16xx Bohland Ave

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, Parent of a LMAP child with special needs

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Angie Haigh

From: Gonne Asser [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 5:42 PM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Gonne Asser

Email Address:

Address: 17xx Sunny Slope Lane 55116

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Gonne Asser

From: Sarah milazzo [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Sunday, April 09, 2017 7:38 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Cc: Benner II, Jerome (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Sarah milazzo

Email Address:

Address: 9xx st. Clair ave

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a Summit Hill neighbor, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Sarah milazzo

From: Katie Diaz

Email Address:

Address: 2x west george street, st. paul

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Katie Diaz

From: Kerry McIntyre-Lee [<mailto:advocatesforlmap@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 10:52 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Letter of Support for LMAP Variance

From: Kerry McIntyre-Lee

Address: 12xx Randolph Avenue

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a supporter of public education in St. Paul

I would like to thank you for your service, and am grateful for the work that you do. I am writing to express my support for the proposed upgrades to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus facilities on both campuses. The addition to the Lower campus (Linwood) building will allow the school to make a number of essential updates, such as making both buildings accessible for students with limited mobility, bringing undersized classrooms on both campuses up to size standards, and moving four-year-old pre-K students and nine-year-old fourth graders out of the middle school environment into the more appropriate environment of the elementary school. The addition will also increase the amount of available dedicated play space by over 1,000 sf and give students the dedicated place they currently do not have to play inside on bad weather days. At the Upper school (Monroe), where some classrooms are only half the size that SPPS standards call for, all classrooms will be brought up to adequate sizes. I strongly support the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century, and appreciate the willingness of SPPS to adjust its plans by making several major revisions based on community input. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will support them, too.

Sincerely,

Kerry McIntyre-Lee

Dear Council Member Noecker, Saint Paul City Council and Mayor Coleman,

I am a Lincoln Avenue resident who lives four blocks from Linwood school, and I strongly support the school's expansion plans. A few of my neighbors have expressed reservations. While I understand their concerns, and I initially shared their particular concern regarding open space, I believe the district's current plan addresses many of the earlier shortcomings, including: there is actually an increase in usable open space, the height of the proposed addition is no higher than similar buildings in the area, and the district has a plan to optimize bus flow to minimize traffic.

In addition to the positive changes the district has made in the plans, the expansion deserves support for what Linwood represents to the Summit Hill and St. Paul Community. In Linwood, we have a diverse student body supported by a talented and committed group of teachers and administrators that is excelling. Linwood is delivering on the goals we all have for public education, and in this period when public schools are under enormous pressure, when we have a school that serves as a model for others we must nurture and uphold that success. Some of my neighbors suggest reallocating students to relieve the burden at Linwood. This idea fails to appreciate the uniqueness of Linwood, that its strength is due to its diversity and the culture its students, teachers and administrators have created. This positive ecosystem can not simply be uprooted and replanted with an expectation of similar results, as surely many students and teachers who support the success will not move en masse.

My wife and I moved to St. Paul five years ago from outside the state in part for the schools. My wife and I were fortunate in that we had options where to live. Many of my co-workers suggested we live in Edina, Wayzata, or Southwest Minneapolis, where they lived. We desired a more diverse but supportive learning environment, in a public school, for my two children, currently ages 8 and 11. We couldn't be happier with our choice. While the Saint Paul district has its challenges similar to many other large, urban districts, the level of teaching and engagement we have experienced has been first rate. I strongly feel the academic rigor our children have received and overall advancement they have obtained has been on par with the strongest public school and private schools in the metro area. Linwood is a testament to this success, and I urge you to support the needs for the campus to continue to excel in serving its existing community.

Ryan Willemsen

April 11, 2017

Dear Ms. Noecker and St. Paul City Council Members,

I am writing as a resident of St. Paul Ward 2 and as a parent of two kids. Seven years ago, after touring nine schools (public and private), we chose Linwood Monroe Arts Plus (LMAP) for our kids. This decision has turned out to be one of the best parenting decisions we have ever made. Our seventh grade twins are thriving academically and socially at this amazing arts-infused Pre-K through 8th grade school on two campuses.

As someone who serves on the District Council Board in West Seventh (Fort Road Federation), I was pleased to see St. Paul Public Schools modify their early expansion plans to better suit neighborhood concerns. Significant modifications were made multiple times to accommodate the

issues raised by some. But a small group of neighbors still just don't want the expansion. I have seen this group continually attempt to use absolutely false facts to "argue" their case. They have embarrassed themselves with their "ideas" about how the school should be built, and even about how the academic grade splits should be construed. This group has even suggested the kids should "just go somewhere else to school"; that the District should just "build a new school somewhere"; and some even had an "idea" to tear down the Monroe campus playground and ball field to build a school there instead of expanding Linwood. All of these "ideas" have been expressed without any of this group even visiting the schools, despite multiple invitations to do so. How insulting to our community, school, and kids!

The reality of the situation is that the school is a neighborhood gem—many neighbors know this but some apparently do not. The makeup of kids is diverse culturally, socioeconomically, ability-wise, etc.—just like the City of St. Paul and the greater world we live in. However, Linwood Monroe is a REGIONAL MAGNET school—which means those of us in Area F get first "dibs" when we apply. This is why many of us in West Seventh, West Side, Summit Hill, Macalester Groveland, Summit-University, etc. are able to attend this great school. I have attached the 2015-2016 LMAP attendance area map from the SPPS Data Center as a reference of where kids who attend this school live. The two green stars are the two schools (Linwood and Monroe) and the red dots represent all of the kids and families who come here every day. You will see there are kids who get in to the school from all over the City; but also a majority of us live within a mile or two of Linwood or Monroe. My kids walk to school—for us, the LMAP campuses are the closest schools to our home. LMAP is a great community asset for the neighborhoods and City—in fact, we know of several families who have moved to the area in hopes to attend LMAP.

Please hold up the clear and correct decisions by the BZA, HPC, and MN SHPO to allow the very reasonable LMAP variances to be approved so St. Paul can continue to grow and better serve our neighborhood kids. As satisfied consumers of St. Paul Public Schools, I can tell you LMAP is an amazing public amenity and the future is even brighter for current and future kids in St. Paul once the much needed expansion can happen.

Rebecca, as a former teacher, a parent, and Councilperson, I hope you agree this project is an investment in the future of our kids, our public school system, our neighborhoods, and our great City. Councilmembers, please hold up the variance approvals that so many other schools have received so this great project is not delayed any longer. Thank you for your service and support!

Sincerely,
Denise Wickiser
3xx Duke St
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear City Council Members,

Our family lives at 10xx Goodrich. We're in favor of the changes to make the school have updated classrooms, be ADA compliant, and other improvements that don't require the dramatic reduction of open space on the north side of the school.

Thanks for your consideration,
Tom and Linda Salonek

From: Emily Goff

Email Address:

Address: 2xx Milton St. South

Relationship to LMAP: an LMAP parent, a Summit Hill neighbor

I am writing to express my strong support for the two zoning variances that Linwood Monroe Arts Plus has been granted to be able to bring both of its buildings into the twenty-first century. The major revisions to the plans that SPPS has made based on community input since the initial plan was announced in March 2016 have made it dramatically better, and the new plan will create a much better learning environment for the school's students and teachers. As someone who believes in the importance of a vibrant public education system, I hope that you will uphold both variances as they have been granted.

Sincerely,

Emily Goff

February 7, 2017

Board of Zoning Appeals
Department of Safety and Inspections
375 Jackson St. Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Sean Westenhofer,

Please accept the attached letter and list of names to forward to the members of the Board of Zoning Appeals. This letter was written back in September when we thought that the BZA hearing for the two variances for 1023 Osceola Ave (Linwood Monroe Arts Plus) would be held in early September. Since we didn't have a lot of time to pull together a list of signers, we gathered many names through electronic communications. When the BZA hearing was postponed, we then gathered signatures at school events from members of the school community. The first set of names on the letter are the ones collected virtually, and then we have scans of the signatures on paper.

Thank you,
Marianne Milligan
LMAP Parent
1420 Fairmount Ave

cc: City Council, SPPS Board of Directors and SPPS Interim Superintendent

Sept. 2, 2016

Board of Zoning Appeals
Department of Safety and Inspections
375 Jackson St. Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Board of Zoning Appeals,

We write this letter to strongly encourage the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) to approve the two variances (1023 Osceola) in order to construct an addition onto Linwood Elementary School building (one of the two campuses of the Linwood Monroe Arts Plus school). As you know, this project is one among many in SPPS's new district-wide Facilities Master Plan (FMP), which includes similar expansions at other schools, such as Horace Mann, Adams, and Highland. We are glad that SPPS is investing in our public schools and the parents and teachers at Linwood Monroe Arts Plus (LMAP) overwhelmingly support the planned expansion for the lower campus, as do many neighbors. The St. Paul Public School's (SPPS) latest plan for the Linwood campus (Aug. 8) strikes an excellent balance between the school's needs and the priorities of its neighbors.

Without these two variances, LMAP students and teachers will lose important improvements including:

1. Classrooms at both buildings large enough to meet Minnesota Department of education (MDE) guidelines (currently all of the classrooms are undersized).
2. Handicap accessible facilities.
3. Breakout rooms and rooms for small group instruction. LMAP provides programs in Language Academy, English Learning, Specific Learning Disabilities, Developmental and Cognitive Disabilities Mild/Moderate & Severe/Profound with all of its related services, AVID, Early Childhood Family Education, Early Childhood Special Education, Extended Day Learning, Flipside and athletics. Many students have IEPs that require individual and/or small group instruction. Such instruction often happens in hallways now.
4. A new cafeteria at the Linwood campus that will allow the old space to function only as a gym/auditorium. Without the new cafeteria, children will continue to have no place to move their bodies during indoor recess.
5. Having children pre-K through 4th grade in one building. Research shows significant value in maintaining a consistent environment for students from pre-K to grade 4, and many LMAP families find that their 4th graders experience difficulties adjusting simultaneously to an unfamiliar new building and higher academic demands.
6. Updated building mechanicals. For example, teachers will lose sinks in their classrooms – important when you feed breakfast to small children – and more generations of kindergarteners will have to wear winter coats in their rooms.
7. An improved layout for the outdoor play areas, including room for a U8 soccer field.

Because this expansion will provide all of these improvements, we believe it is worth the cost of

losing a little extra outdoor play space, especially since the new play spaces will have better equipment and can be thoughtfully reconfigured. As for the addition's height, on a block shared with four large multiunit buildings, including two close to the same height as LMAP, it seems entirely reasonable to build a three-story addition on the existing three-story school.

The loss of these improvements would be especially significant for this school given LMAP's diverse student body: 67% are students of color, 67% receive food subsidies, and 38% speak a second language. For decades, our country has grappled with the "achievement gap," which refers to the persistent disparity of educational measures between low-income/minority students and middle-income/non-minority students. Approval of these variances are an important first step in addressing the achievement gap and providing a high-quality education for the students of Linwood Monroe Arts Plus.

cc: City Council, SPPS Board of Directors and SPPS Interim Superintendent

Respectfully signed,

1. Anderson, Marie, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
2. Audette, Chris, Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
3. Audette, Johanna "Goodie", Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
4. Betten, Sue, LMAP staff
5. Beveridge, Andrew, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, SPPS parent
6. Blanchard, Jennifer, Summit-Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent
7. Blanchard, Scott, Summit-Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent
8. Blumer-LaMotte, Ann, West Side, Ward 2, LMAP parent
9. Boyer, Craig, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
10. Boyer, Liz, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
11. Breimhorst, Dane, West 7th, Ward 2,
12. Breimhorst, Zoe, West 7th, Ward 2,
13. Brisben, Amy, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
14. Carr, Brigitte, Lexington-Hamline, Ward 1, LMAP parent
15. Christensen-Schoeller, Kate, Union Park, Ward 2, SPPS parent
16. Clark, Jason, LMAP staff
17. Cline, Vince, Summit Hill, Ward 2, Neighbor
18. Crawford, Jim, West Side, Ward 2, LMAP grandparent
19. Crawford, Sarah, Summit Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent
20. Cylkowski, Tom, Cathedral Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent
21. Davis, Sydney, LMAP parent
22. Deloia, Ailie, Battle Creek, Ward 7, LMAP parent
23. Deloia, Christian, Battle Creek, Ward 7, LMAP parent
24. Diaz, Katie, West Side, Ward 2, LMAP parent
25. Diaz, Tyler, West Side, Ward 2, LMAP parent
26. Enders, Jake, Union Park, Ward 4, LMAP parent
27. Enders, Laura, Union Park, Ward 4, LMAP parent
28. Essert, Emily, Dayton's Bluff, Ward 7,
29. Ethen, Michael, Dayton's Bluff, Ward 7,

30. Faughender, Paula, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP grandparent
31. Forstner, Jessica, Ward 2, LMAP staff
32. Freeman, Chris Ward 4, LMAP parent
33. Freeman, Chris, Como Park, Ward 4, LMAP parent
34. Gillen-O'Neel, Cari, Summit University, Ward 2,
35. Gillen-O'Neel, Chuck, Summit University, Ward 2,
36. Groves, Sara, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
37. Groves, Troy, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
38. Guider, Dan, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
39. Guider, Rebekkah, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
40. Hammond, Grant, Union Park, Ward 4, LMAP alum
41. Handler, Eric, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3,
42. Hansen, Ben, Como Park, Ward 5, LMAP parent
43. Hansen, Jen, Como Park, Ward 5, LMAP parent
44. Heyman, Lisa, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, SPPS parent
45. Hobbie, Ann, Lex-Ham, Ward 1, SPPS parent
46. Jacobson, Jeanne, Summit Hill, Ward 2, LMAP grandparent
47. Jacobson, Mark, Summit Hill, Ward 2, LMAP grandparent
48. Janisch Lake, Ruth Ward 2, LMAP parent
49. Johnson, Bryan, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
50. Johnson, Jason, Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
51. Johnson, Jill, Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
52. Johnson, Kristin, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
53. Kachelmeier, Linda, Union Park, Ward 4,
54. Kelly, Norah, North End, Ward 5,
55. Kendle, Julie, LMAP parent
56. Kendle, Ken, LMAP parent
57. Klingbeil, Jeff, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
58. Klingbeil, Linda, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP grandparent
59. Kolb, Jeremy, Union Park, Ward 4,
60. Kroetsch, Eric, Union Park, Ward 4, LMAP parent
61. LaMotte, Chris, West Side, Ward 2, LMAP parent
62. Lea Fields, Sharon, West Side, Ward 2, LMAP parent
63. Lee, Kathy, Ward 1, Former LMAP parent
64. Lokken, Andy, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
65. Lokken, Megan, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
66. Mackson, Brandy, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
67. Mackson, Jame, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
68. Marthaler, Annette, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
69. Martinez-Freeman, Aida, Como Park, Ward 4, LMAP parent
70. Mason, Jennifer, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
71. Mauricio, Juan, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
72. McBounds, Zo, West Saint Paul LMAP parent
73. McCabe, Andy, Summit Hill, Ward 2, neighbor
74. McCabe, Gina, Summit Hill, Ward 2, neighbor
75. McIntyre-Lee, Kerry, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, SPPS parent

76. Melrose, Donna, LMAP staff
77. Milazzo, Sarah, Ward 2 , LMAP parent
78. Miller, Cathy, West 7th, Ward 2,
79. Milligan, Marianne, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
80. Modelli, Rubens, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
81. Moeller, Amy, Summit-University, Ward 1, LMAP parent
82. Moeller, Mark, Summit-University, Ward 1, LMAP parent
83. Morell, Sean, West 7th, Ward 2,
84. Oulman, Jarret, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
85. Partenhaimer, Kirsten, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
86. Paulsrud, Deb, St. Anthony Park, Ward 4, LMAP parent
87. Perkins, Carol, West Side, Ward 2,
88. Pierce, Eleta, West Side, Ward 2, LMAP parent
89. Raich, Jeffrey, Summit-Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent
90. Reed, Nate, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
91. Reid, Curtis, Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
92. Reid, Stacey, Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
93. Rome, Jennifer, Union Park, Ward 1, LMAP parent
94. Roy, Andrew, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, SPPS ECFE parent
95. Scharlatt, Andrea , LMAP parent
96. Schneck, Karina, West-Side, Ward 2, LMAP parent
97. Schroeder, Lisa, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
98. Sikora, Brent, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
99. Singer, Brian, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
100. Smith, J. Mitchell, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
101. Stocco, Sarah, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, SPPS ECFE parent
102. Stoffel, Michael, Union Park , Ward 4,
103. Stookey, H., Cathedral Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent
104. Stupic, Karen, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parents
105. Szondy, Mary, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
106. Taulelle, Karen, Mac-Grove, Ward 3, LMAP staff
107. Thurn, Jennifer Ward 2,
108. Tilander, Josh, Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
109. Tilander, Kei, Highland Park, Ward 3, LMAP parent
110. Turino, Craig, Summit-University, Ward 1, LMAP parent
111. Turino, Sarah, Summit-University, Ward 1, LMAP parent
112. Van Note, Madeleine, Union Park, Ward 4, LMAP alum
113. Waldo, Amber, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, SPPS parent
114. Waldron, Rhonie, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
115. Weicht, Lisa, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
116. Weispfening, Eric, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP grandparent
117. Wells, Chris, Mac-Groveland, Ward 3, LMAP parent
118. Wengler, Christine, West 7th, Ward 2, LMAP parent
119. Wickiser, Denise, Ward 2, LMAP parent
120. Willemsen, Laura, Summit Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent
121. Willemsen, Ryan, Summit Hill, Ward 2, LMAP parent

- 122. Wilson, Zach, Union Park, Ward 1, LMAP parent
- 123. Wren, Mike, West Side, Ward 2,
- 124. Wren, Sarah, West Side, Ward 2,
- 125. Wrenshall, Karyn, Summit Hill, Ward 2, Retired LMAP teacher
- 126. Yost, Lisa, Summit-Hill, Ward 2, Neighbor

[See attached scans of 300 additional signatures gathered on paper.]

SIGN The Group letter

Print Name clearly	Neighborhood city ward	Parent?
Pawkee	ward 1	Yes
Ma Se	ward 1	Yes
Ma Ney yee	ward 1	Yes
Paw Krue wah	Don ward 1	Yes
Dweh cha	ward 1	Yes
Yegh Htoo	ward 1	Yes
CHAR TOLLA	ward 2	yes
Aynalem Bedene	ward 2	Yes
Berhane Gebredessie	"	"
Seba Babi	"	"
Meseret mozes	"	"
Berhanu edea	ward 2	"
Tigist wolde	"	"
Erchato Abide	"	"
Shame	"	"
Modad	"	"
Adhanet. Teklemichael	ward 2	"
Senait. Teklemichael	"	"
Hiwot. Emnetu	"	"
Almaz Woldemagene	ward 2	"
Blondus Be Yimam	ward 1	"

SIGN THE GROUP LETTER

Name (Please Print clearly)

Provide email if you want to be contacted in the future

Neighborhood/
City Ward

LMAP Parent/
Staff

Laura Schauben

mac-groveland

parent

Dionne Reinhart

West 7th

parent

Marcelina Peña

280 Wilshire

parent

Ohio St W apt #5

Kathleen Rivas

Ward 1

Parent

Stacey Reid

West 7th

Parent

Melissa Arch

Thomas/Dale

LMAP parent

Atom Robinson

W1, Frogtown

LMAP Parent

CARA WESTON

W2

LMAP PARENT

Cristina Norvaz

ward 2

LMAP PARENT

Nachi Norvaz

Ward 2

Emily Trudeau

Ward 4

Aunt

Alyssa West

ward 1

parent

Scott Johansen

Ward 3

parent

Sean Whelan

Ward 2

parent

Abdi Rezak Mohamed

Ward 2

parent

Dahab + Gurey Abdi wayell Ward 1

Deirdre McKiernan

Ward 1

Parent

Toni Tieden

Ward 1

Parent

Melissa Floyd

Ward 3

Parent

Zach Floyd

Ward 3

Staff/parent

Ardo

ward 2

Parent

Fadumo + Mohamed Hassan

ward 1

parent

Mohamed Gani adam

Ward 2

Parent

Li-Rad adon

ward 1

Parent

samsam Hassan

ward 1

parent

Jenny Ken

Ward 2

Grandparent

Kelly & Andrew Nelson

Ward 2

parent

Tammy Peterson

Ward 2

ECFE @ Monroe

Kristin Johnson

Parent

Escuela Linwood Monroe Art Plus

9/2016

Por favor firme para dar su apoyo para que reconstruyan la escuela para ofrecer mejores servicios a todos nuestros estudiantes.

- Jacinto Ueffe
- [Signature]
- Alejandra Andrade Herrera
- ELVIRALINA GARCIA-MARRUFO
- Marcelina Peña Basilio
- Berenice Paula Ibarra ~~Ba~~
- Lourdes Lizbeth Valerdi Paula - [Signature]
- Andrew J. Valerdi-Paula [Signature]
- Beatriz Díaz Ceballos Juárez
- Ismael Aguirre Martínez
- Daniel Rojas Nava
- Cristh Navas
- [Signature]
- Gerardo Narvaez
- Elda Contreras
- Israel Gonzalez
- maria aguirre ~~AD~~

Latino families
Signatures in support
for the project at
Linwood.

Maria

LMAP ADVOCACY ALERT!

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)




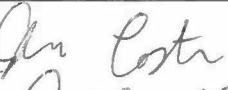
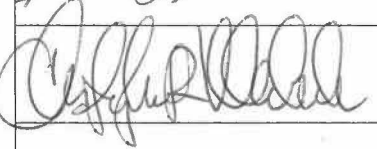

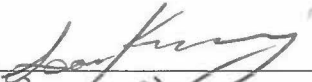



[We are gathering names to add to this letter to the BZA. If you'd like to have your name added, please contact Marianne Milligan: mimilligan@gmail.com. In addition to names, we're trying to include everyone's neighborhood or city ward and whether they work at LMAP, have children/grandchildren who attend LMAP, or have children/grandchildren in SPPS.]

[illegible]

LMAP ADVOCACY ALERT!

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)

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Sign	Print name clearly	Neighborhood/ward	Relationship to school (e.g. LMAP parent)	Email if you want more info	PTA listserve?
	Kijersten Kinney	Brewery	Parent Monroe		
	Carolyn R. Carlson	Eastside	Parent Linwood & Monroe		
	Bobby Brown	St. Paul worker	Therapist		
	Shawn Costard	West END	Parent		
	Christopher Read Winkelman	Lex HAM	Parent		
	Janet Fuentes Ramirez	EastSide	mom	T	
	Sean T Kavaney	EastSide	Parent	Kavaney@a	
	Brent Zikora	McAllister Grove	Parent	/	
	Gonne Asser	Highland	Parent	g	
	SUNIL BAWA	Highland	Parent		gma: Yes

LMAP ADVOCACY ALERT!

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)


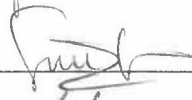





[We are gathering names to add to this letter to the BZA. If you'd like to have your name added, please contact Marianne Milligan: mimilligan@gmail.com. In addition to names, we're trying to include everyone's neighborhood or city ward and whether they work at LMAP, have children/grandchildren who attend LMAP, or have children/grandchildren in SPPS.]

Sign	Print name clearly	Neighborhood/ward	Relationship to school (e.g. LMAP paren)	Email if you want more info	PTA listserve?
	not				
	Dol Aden	ward 1	parent		
	Barlin Omar	ward 1	parent		
	Fadumo mohamed	ward 1	parent		
	ERIC SMITH	Ward 2	PARENT		
	Ed Steinhauer	2	parent		
	Ken Kendle Kendle	3	parent		

LMAP ADVOCACY ALERT!

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)



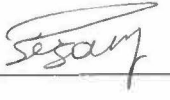




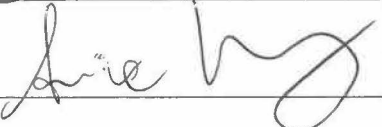
[We are gathering names to add to this letter to the BZA. If you'd like to have your name added, please contact Marianne Milligan: mimilligan@gmail.com. In addition to names, we're trying to include everyone's neighborhood or city ward and whether they work at LMAP, have children/grandchildren who attend LMAP, or have children/grandchildren in SPPS.]

Sign	Print name clearly	Neighborhood/ward	Relationship to school (e.g. LMAP paren)	Email if you want more info	PTA listserve?
	Selamwit merSha				
	Selamwit merSha	7 th Street	Parent	XXXXXXXXXXXXX @gmail.com	
	Kebede lembebo	5 th street	parent	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
	Aregash yonscho	5 th	mom	11	
	Ayele Matta	4 th	dad		
	Bogalech Feleke	8 th	mom		
	Erchabo Giboba	7 th street	dad		
	Tigist wolde	7 th street	mom		
	SNKASHE DERTA	7 th street	mom		
	messin AKALU	—	dad	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX .com	

LMAP ADVOCACY ALERT!

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)

[We are gathering names to add to this letter to the BZA. If you'd like to have your name added, please contact Marianne Milligan: mimilligan@gmail.com. In addition to names, we're trying to include everyone's neighborhood or city ward and whether they work at LMAP, have children/grandchildren who attend LMAP, or have children/grandchildren in SPPS.]

Sign	Print name clearly	Neighborhood/ward	Relationship to school (e.g. LMAP parent)	Email if you want more info	PTA listserve?
	Abaelia Hulle	3			
	Himan Beraki	3	Parent		
	Semaines Mengesha	3	Parent		
	Seyoum Tibletse	3	parent		
	Kassga and Tiblets	2	Parent	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
	Hirut Wassie	3	Parent		
	ETHAN ABLT	7	PARENT		
	Melanie Liska	3	Parent	melanisliska@XXXXXX	
	Annie Voz	1	Parent		

LMAP ADVOCACY ALERT!

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)

[We are gathering names to add to this letter to the BZA. If you'd like to have your name added, please contact Marianne Milligan: mimilligan@gmail.com. In addition to names, we're trying to include everyone's neighborhood or city ward and whether they work at LMAP, have children/grandchildren who attend LMAP, or have children/grandchildren in SPSS.]

Sign	Print name clearly	Neighborhood/ward	Relationship to school (e.g. LMAP <u>parent</u>)	Email if you want more info	PTA listserve?
<i>[Signature]</i>	Othman Othman	1			
Asho	Asho Shire	1	Parent		
NIMO	NIMO Hassan	7	Parent		
Sarah Milazzo	Sarah Milazzo	Linwood	Parent		
Ryan Willemssen	Ryan Willemssen	2	"	XXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXX ryanwillemssen@gmail.com	
Gwen Pappas	Gwen Pappas	1	Parent	gwendalyn.pappas@gmail.com	
Star Hritzky	Star Hritzky	1	Parent	starhritzky@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx starhritzky.com	
David Anderson	David Anderson		Parent	davidanderson@hsxxxxxx	
Robb Westauker	Robb Westauker	1	Parent	robbwestauker@xxxxxxxxxxxxx	

LMAP ADVOCACY ALERT!

ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LETTER TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA)

[We are gathering names to add to this letter to the BZA. If you'd like to have your name added, please contact Marianne Milligan: mmilligan@gmail.com. In addition to names, we're trying to include everyone's neighborhood or city ward and whether they work at LMAP, have children/grandchildren who attend LMAP, or have children/grandchildren in SPPS.]

[illegible]

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[illegible]

important when you feed breakfast to small children – and more generations of kindergarteners will have to wear winter coats in their rooms.

7. An improved layout for the outdoor play areas, including room for a U8 soccer field.

Because this expansion will provide all of these improvements, we believe it is worth the cost of losing a little extra outdoor play space, especially since the new play spaces will have better equipment and can be thoughtfully reconfigured. As for the addition's height, on a block shared with four large multiunit buildings, including two close to the same height as LMAP, it seems entirely reasonable to build a three-story addition on the existing three-story school.

The loss of these improvements would be especially significant for this school given LMAP's diverse student body: 67% are students of color, 67% receive food subsidies, and 38% speak a second language. For decades, our country has grappled with the "achievement gap," which refers to the persistent disparity of educational measures between low-income/minority students and middle-income/non-minority students. Approval of these variances are an important first step in addressing the achievement gap and providing a high-quality education for the students of Linwood-Monroe Arts Plus.

Respectfully signed,

NAMES WILL BE LISTED HERE

1. Ia Xiong ward 1
2. Wilson Vang ward 1
3. Yee Vang ward 1
4. Yeng Yang ward 1
5. Ricky Vang ward 3
6. Xai Vang ward 2
7. Mona Lee ward 2
8. Ger Thao ward 2
9. Xue Lee ward 1

10. Ka Vang ward 2
11. Ger Her ward 2
12. Vang M Vue ward 1
13. Meng Hang ward 1
14. Wameng Thao ward 1
15. Soua Yang ward 2
16. Vai Xiong ward 2
17. Nancy Vang ward 2
18. Xeng Xiong
19. Chong Lee ward 1
20. Pao Yang ward 1
21. Soua Vang
22. John X. Yang
23. Seng Vang
24. Larry Yang
25. shoua Vang
26. Kuu Yang
27. Seng Yang
28. Der Vang
29. Seng Xiong

30. Chongyer Yang ward 1
31. Chia Vang ward 1
32. Ae Yang ward 3
33. Mang Thao ward 3
34. Xiong Yang ward 1
35. SueZee Xiong ward 1
36. Jor Yang ward 1
37. Yer Vang ward 1
38. Chue Xiong ward 1
39. Poua Lee ward 1
40. long Vang
41. A Lee
42. Blong Vang ward 2
43. Chi Moua ward 2
44. Johann Vang
45. Mai Dee Xiong
46. Xai Lor ward 1
47. Pha Cheng ward 1
48. Xee Thao ward 1
49. Pa Nhia Moua
50. Dang Moua
51. Xeng Vue

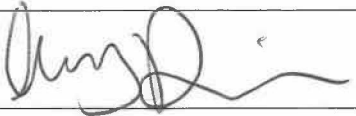
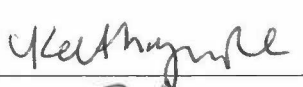

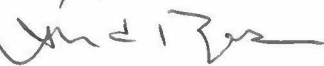

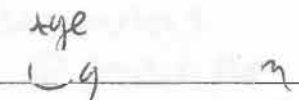

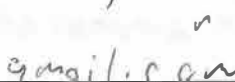

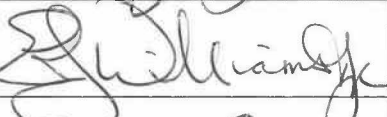


52. Xao Thao ward 2
53. Mai Lee ward 2
54. Ka Thao ward 2
55. Kia Tou Thao ward 1
56. Susan Vang Thao ward 1
57. Vang Lee Thao ward 2
58. Nok Vang ward 2
59. Ka Yang Yang ward 2
60. Pamela Thao ward 1
61. Wa Vang
62. Ka Thao
63. Chou Vang ward 2
64. Yona Yang ward 2
65. Xiong Yang ward 1
66. Sue Zee Xiong ward 1
67. Va Kue Vang ward 2
68. Mai Vue ward 2
69. Mai Sue Thao ward 2
70. Chia Cheng ward 1
71. Yia Lee ward 1
72. Bee Xiong
73. Houa Xee Her ward 2

74. Lee Kong Yang ward 1
75. Neng Vang ward 2

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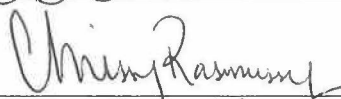

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Sign	Print name clearly	Neighborhood/ward	Relationship to school (e.g. LMAP parent)	Email if you want more info	PTA listserve?
	Sydney Davis	White Bear Lake	Parent		
	Kathryn Piha	Selby Park	parent		
	JONATHAN LUND	WARD 1	PARENT		
	ANDREW RASMUSSEN	WARD 2	PARENT		
	Mark Haugen	Ward 2	Parent		
	Ellie Haugen	Ward 2	Sibling		
	MOLLY SCHWARTZ	W. 7th	PARENT		
	Ed Williams, Jr	S. Mpls	Teacher		
	Rachel Tolo	East side St. Paul	Parent		
	Elisabeth Wright	Como	Teacher		

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Sign	Print name clearly	Neighborhood/ward	Relationship to school (e.g. LMAP parent)	Email if you want more info	PTA listserve?
	August Paw	Comol/Rice	Parent		
	Ryan Hay	Rondo	Parent		
	Ma So	Edmond/Lex	Parent		
	ma Nay Yee	Edmond/Lex	Parent		
	Xiangchiszek	Longfellow	Teacher + Parent		
	Chrissy Rasmussen	Ward 2	Parent		
	Annette L Van Aken	Ward 2	Parent		

in blue

SAM/12/14

Vann Hill

Ayah Amul

Desi Hyl
Carmie Higgins

Muriel Felecy Mebe

Rebecca Marion

Ying Khay

Suzzy Dales

Rosemary O'Brien

Deon Dora

Cathy Kana

Emily Kalkbrenner

Hidi Go

Kelly Pugh

Patricia Zawolale

Tala Wla

Cory P. Mayan

David

Wla

Jody Kroseng

Iman Kinau

Shelly Kriz

Zoh Fth

Carri Jack

Kate Kora

Sarah Nady

Mr. Tim
Bradford

Ang

Ellen Jovick

Ilmu Mura

Maria Goldman

[To add your name digitally, email Marianne Milligan: mimilligan@gmail.com

Respectfully signed,

Juan Mann

Natalie Johnson

Natalie Johnson

Bryan Barrs

By E. Barrs

3-3-2007

P. D.

Michelle Barrs

Sam Yell

Sam Yell

Jim Barr

Jim Barr

Jim Barr

Jim Barr

Wiley Kalthen

Wiley Kalthen

Andy McBride

Andy McBride

Wiley Kalthen

Wiley Kalthen

Daniel K. Burton

Dan Burton

Jody Kroppeng

Jody Kroppeng

J. J. J. J.

Tanya Schuchman

arah Hernandez

arah Hernandez

Shelly Kropf

Willard Willard

Andrea

many schools

[To add your name digitally, email Marianne Milligan: mimilligan@gmail.com

Respectfully signed,

Rebecca Simon
Hil Die
K Dawson Kohlman
Ann Duffin
Viggo J. Kressin
D. M.
Julie M.
M. Nixon
Carl Res
Mandy W.
Rebecca Lund
Jessica Rooney
Gretchen H.
Amy Seck

Amy Withman
Elizabeth
A. Clark Payton
Tala Uller
Adele Jones
Kamryn
Nancy H. Hays
Alla C.
Randy Johnson
Mary Chis
Alex Meri
Cori C. Behrman

JOHN P. GEHAN

1008 Fairmount Ave. • St. Paul, MN 55105-3102 • 651-222-8237
johngehan@comcast.net

Date: April 10, 2017

To: St. Paul City Council members; Jerome Benner II, DSI

Via: Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us, Jerome.Benner.II@ci.stpaul.mn.us

Re: Proposed Linwood School variances

I am an alumnus of Linwood School. I have lived on the same block as Linwood School for 33 years, and grew up a few blocks away. My mother and uncles attended Linwood. My children and grandchildren all have attended public schools. I have been an eyewitness to Linwood for 67 years. I want to see Linwood thrive. But this proposal will help neither Linwood nor the community.

There are many reasons to reject the zoning variances requested by the St. Paul Public Schools for a proposed expansion of Linwood School. Among them are:

- ☐ The proposed expansion is too big, too tall, too massive for the miniaturized Linwood site. It would be fine at another larger site, but not at Linwood.
- ☐ The proposed expansion will have negative consequences for the surrounding neighborhood, including increased traffic and decreased safety, inadequate parking, loss of open green space in the community, and others.
- ☐ The expansion will result in the loss of vital outside playground area for the Linwood schoolchildren. Playground space is very important for the Linwood kids.
- ☐ The proposal is inconsistent with both the neighborhood plan and city's Comprehensive Plan.

Essentially, the proposal attempts to put too many kids, too many teachers and staff, too many cars and busses, and too many programs into a space that can't support them. The motivation for the expansion appears to be driven by the planners' needs to manage attendance at various schools, not by the needs of the Linwood children. If it weren't for this multi-school attendance juggling, school planners would never consider putting such an oversized building on such a small lot.

However, **the central reason** the St. Paul City Council should reject the expansion proposal is that it fails to meet the requirements contained in City Code. The Code specifies six criteria that must be met before a variance is granted. Those criteria are:

- ☐ The variance is in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the zoning code.
- ☐ The variance is consistent with the comprehensive plan.
- ☐ The applicant has established that there are practical difficulties in complying with the provision, that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the provision. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties.
- ☐ The plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner.
- ☐ The variance will not permit any use that is not allowed in the zoning district where the affected land is located.
- ☐ The variance will not alter the essential character of the surrounding area.

In granting a variance, the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) must make written findings stating the grounds upon which the variance is justified. In February, the BZA accepted a flawed staff recommendation, on a split vote, with little board discussion, to approve the variances. Even a cursory review of the staff report reveals that five of those six criteria were not met by the expansion proposal.

Perhaps the most egregious of the BZA findings relates to *Criterion Four*: “*The plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner.*” **In fact, the desire of the landowners (the public schools) to expand programming is the sole reason for the variance request. There is absolutely nothing unique about the Linwood site other than it is too small for the oversized building. The “plight” of applicants has been entirely created by applicants themselves.**

For over 100 years, the neighborhood has welcomed Linwood School and its children, often assisting with groundskeeping, playground construction, and volunteering. Over the years, many residents and their children have attended Linwood School and have worked hard to create a supportive and friendly atmosphere for the school. Since this proposal was first revealed to the neighborhood over one year ago, the neighbors have repeatedly stated that they support reasonable improvements to the school that create a great learning environment for the students. Based on what many neighbors have said to me, they continue to support efforts to find a reasonable compromise.

I hope the City Council will enforce the City Code and find that the requirements for the variances have not been met.

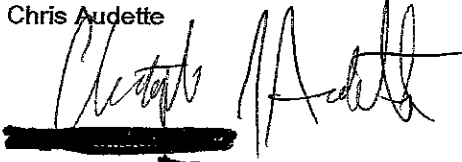
April 3, 2017

Dear Chris Tolbert,

I strongly support the two variance granted to Linwood Monroe Arts Plus to bring its buildings into the 21st century. As a supporter of public education in Saint Paul, I encourage you to vote in favor of the proposed expansion variances for Linwood Monroe Arts Plus. Our family and children have had exceptional experiences with LMAP. Not only do the children deserve this but the hard working teachers and staff that bring this school to life everyday. I can honestly say my children look forward to going everyday day!

Thank you for listening,

Chris Audette

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Audette", written over a blacked-out redacted area.

St. Paul, MN

