

## Wendy Winningham

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**From:** Laura Bynum  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 2, 2024 8:00 AM  
**To:** Wendy Winningham  
**Subject:** FW: Letter for BOS: Golden Eagle Use Permit

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SISKIYOU COUNTY  
CLERK'S OFFICE

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Donna Mathwig <dsmathwig@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 1, 2024 8:40 PM  
**To:** Clerk.Registrar <clerk.registrar@sisqvotes.org>  
**Subject:** Letter for BOS: Golden Eagle Use Permit

Greetings Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors. As a former governance council member of Golden Eagle Charter School (GECS), a parent of a student who attended five years, and the thirty year director of a community non-profit organization serving pregnant and parenting families in Siskiyou County - many of whom utilize Golden Eagle, I am very concerned with an appeal to deny the use permit for GECS to continue with plans and operations at their recently acquired location at 1030 W A Barr Rd in Mount Shasta.

Primarily, I am concerned as GECS is an essential educational resource in the south county. For those who are not aware, charter schools are public schools.

I understand your concern at this time is the validity of the use permit.

Some background. A few weeks ago, I personally witnessed and heard Chris Marrone state that he does not believe in charter schools - and specifically that he would take this as far as he could.

This very much feels like a nuisance appeal geared toward that end.

Why in the world would someone who is not the parent of others children restrict their educational options? Golden Eagle fills a necessary gap in educational options.

When my child was 15 and experienced a sudden terrifying medical diagnosis - we were surrounded with support from GECS during his crisis, surgery, and extended hospitalization. He was able to graduate with his class, as he was accommodated and nurtured through this studies. Gratitude aplenty for the flexibility afforded us.

As a mother of six children, who were educated in traditional public schools, charter public schools, as well as home education - three with early entrance to college as high schoolers, I have been grateful for the opportunity to choose for my children what was best for their educational paths.

Chris Marrone wants to eliminate 60+ educator positions - as well as force early 500 students already being served by Golden Eagle Charter School to other locations? Absurd. Ridiculous. This is not in the best interest of the children, nor families in our local communities.

It must also be stated that the overwhelming majority of community and county parents desire alternatives for when a traditional public school setting is not a good fit for their child - for many valid reasons. Golden Eagle has a solid track record in providing that for students who were not a good fit for a traditional public school setting.

It is nothing less than shocking for one man to attempt to unilaterally impose his personal perspective on community parents and educators (who are already doing the hard work of meeting educational needs in a time of nationwide upheaval) in a nuisance appeal - as well as wasting the time of everyone involved. I am very familiar with the stress levels our schools and families are dealing with at this time - and we need to protect these interests.

Golden Eagle Charter School fills a great need in our local educational system. I would encourage and urge you to pursue every avenue to resolve whatever technicality to preserve this essential resource.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important situation.

With much respect and hope,

Donna S. Mathwig  
503 Walnut St.  
Weed, CA 96094  
530.859.2225