

Wendy Winningham

From: Michael Kobseff
Sent: Saturday, April 27, 2024 2:33 PM
To: Wendy Winningham
Subject: FW: Golden Eagle Mount Shasta Campus - Use Permit Appeal
Attachments: Letter to Board of Supervisors re Use Permit Appeal.docx

RECEIVED

APR 29 2024

SISKIYOU COUNTY
CLERK'S OFFICE

Thank you,

Michael N. Kobseff
Siskiyou County Supervisor for District 3

----- Original message -----

From: Mary Roach <maryrose.roach1@gmail.com>
Date: 4/27/24 2:15 PM (GMT-03:00)
To: Michael Kobseff <mkobseff@co.siskiyou.ca.us>
Subject: Golden Eagle Mount Shasta Campus - Use Permit Appeal

Dear Siskiyou County Board Member,

Please find attached a letter expressing my concerns relative to the upcoming appeal hearing on the Mt. Shasta Campus Use Permit.

I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing your decision.

Our community at Golden Eagle is counting on you to make the right decision for our kids.

Respectfully,

Mary R. Roach
530-515-5618

April 27, 2024

Dear County of Siskiyou Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss our family's concerns about the appeal hearing for Golden Eagle Charter School's (GECS) use permit. The concerns of the individual, Chris Marrone, who filed the appeal, have previously been discussed by the Planning Commission, and have satisfied the identified issues relative to noise, traffic, environmental impact, and need. I am confused about Mr. Marrone's motivations, given that his profession and listed residence would not be impacted by GECS expansion. To allow an individual of this community to squash GECS goal of expanding our wonderful community simply because he does not like alternative education is wrong. Of note, his wife, Mona Gutierrez, serves as a Board member of the Mount Shasta Union School District, and the Superintendent, Tami Beal, has gone on the record expressing her concerns of losing revenue with the migration of students from Mount Shasta Union schools to our **public** charter school. I believe it is vital to understand and respect each family's right to choose the school environment which best suits their child(ren). This hearing is about the kids and what is best for them!

My husband, John Carr, and I became Legal Guardians of our granddaughter ('SRC') when she was 7 months old. We have since adopted her. She is now 8.5 years old and attends GECS as a 2nd grader. This is our 3rd year at GECS and she is thriving! We couldn't be happier with the school and the community of staff, administrators, teachers, parents and kids. Our diversity reflects the culture in which we live.

Given SRC's difficult early years, it took her longer to adjust socially, and has necessitated counselling, and attentive nurturing. During her preschool and TK years, SRC experienced bullying and ridicule from other children. As a result, she manifested a lack of confidence & self-esteem, with concomitant social & behavioral challenges.

After mindfully researching the potential choices for elementary school education in Siskiyou County, we decided that GECS would be the best choice. During our initial interview process with Marita McIntyre, SRC voiced her concerns over having been previously bullied by several classmates and how traumatic it had been. Her only request was that this not be tolerated at GECS. GECS' policy of 'zero-tolerance' relative to bullying has made an incredible difference in our daughter's confidence and attitude towards attending school. She is flourishing!

GECS is a **public charter school**, in operation since 2004, which is comprised of 400+ enrolled independent study students in grades TK – 12th from throughout Siskiyou County. Approximately 65 of these students, grades TK – 8th, attend class in person at the South County campus on W.A. Barr Road in Mount Shasta. Aside from the Mount Shasta high school campus on South Mount Shasta Blvd., the remainder of the enrolled students are homeschooled, but meet regularly with Education Facilitators at the W.A. Barr campus site or our North County site in Yreka.

GECS offers a unique curriculum with tried & tested ELA & Math programming. The 'magic' that happens daily is the staff & administration's creative offerings of STE(A)M, outdoor science, wilderness survival, dance, music, with practical electives such as sewing, art & collaborative play

with opportunities to learn & role play conflict resolution. An emphasis on teaching 'life skills' is highlighted.

With the new campus expansion, class sizes from TK – 12th, currently at ≤ 8 kids, will max out at 15-16 students per grade, optimal for both learning, collaboration, and social development. The students and faculty will benefit from having a multipurpose room/gymnasium, and a commercial kitchen, larger classrooms, and safe & state of the art playground equipment.

I cannot imagine sending our daughter to a large school devoid of the social network that we currently have at GECS. SRC is developing & flourishing academically, socially, emotionally, and creatively.

I respectfully implore you to approve the expanded use permit based not only upon the results of the many required studies that have been conducted, but also on the value of continuing to allow this GECS community to nourish our kids in this incredible environment. Not only do our families benefit, but the greater community of Siskiyou County is enriched by our amazing kids. After all, this truty is **ALL ABOUT THE KIDS!!**

With thanks for taking the time to read this.

Respectfully,

Mary R. Roach

Mary R. Roach

Residence: 217 N. Adams Drive

Mt. Shasta, CA