

Maria V. Acampora
5060 Ridge Road
North Haven, CT 06473

March 30, 2021

Sent via U.S. First Class Mail and
Sent via email: Fredericksen.alan@northhaven-ct.gov

Alan A. Fredricksen
Land Use Administrator, Zoning
Town of North Haven
Memorial Town Hall
18 Church Street
North Haven, CT 06473

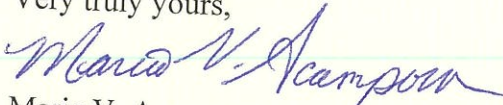
Re: Application for Slate School 5100 Ridge Road, North Haven

Dear Mr. Fredricksen:

We have reviewed the plans at the church property and see that the plans show road widening along Ridge Road. We are concerned. There is a very tight right of way in this area. We would like you to have the developer stake / flag the ROW so we can see what the impact may be. We are not sure if the road can be widened without requiring grading or grading rights, either from our adjacent properties or other abutters in the proposed work.

Please advise when this can be done.

Very truly yours,


Maria V. Acampora

**Susan Hoyer Dannenhoffer
1277 Mount Carmel Avenue
North Haven, Connecticut 06473
(203) 239-6222/(203) 640-4755
Suedannenhoffer@aol.com**

March 29, 2021

Mr. Alan Fredricksen
Land Use Administrator
Town of North Haven
Town Hall Annex
5 Linsley Street
North Haven, CT 06473

RE: #P20-38S Special Permit Application of Timothy J. Lee, Applicant, The Slate School, Inc., Owner, relative to 5100 Ridge Road, (Map 97, Lot 2). Plan Entitled: Slate Upper School, 5100 Ridge Road, North Haven, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Fredricksen:

I live in the northwest part of North Haven, and enjoy our tranquil, verdant, neighborhood, which is contiguous with the beautiful Sleeping Giant State Park, is home to abundant and diverse wildlife, and is so much a part of the Town's character and appeal. An application which was before our Wetlands Commission, was recently approved, however, I feel that this project will irreparably damage the character of our neighborhood, diminish the value of our homes, and adversely impact North Haven's allure to new residents.

The Slate School, Inc. has applied to conduct regulated activity as part of its proposal to build a so-called "upper" school (grades 7-12) for 90-100 students, at 5100 Ridge Road, on a site that is less than three acres. The plans call for a new parking lot, an outdoor amphitheater, a large storm water retention pond, an expanded septic system, the installation of 82 lights, and the widening of portions of Outer Ridge Road. The site abuts extensive wetlands in North Haven and in Hamden, and the entire region is an aquifer zone.

This proposal is in direct contravention to North Haven's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) which recommends limiting development in this area in order to preserve its rural and pastoral nature, reducing traffic on Mt. Carmel Avenue and Outer Ridge Road, and adopting a Scenic Road Ordinance to protect views along roads such as Outer Ridge Road that contribute to the Town's character.

If approved, there will be negative impacts on the wildlife and neighbors residing in the area, along with increased traffic, noise, and light pollution. This proposal is an inappropriate use of this site, and the scale of the project is much too large for its size.

Mr. Alan Fredricksen
Land Use Administrator
Town of North Haven
March 29, 2021
Page Two

I ask you to support the efforts to preserve the sensitive ecosystem of this area of our town, preserve its pastoral character, adhere to the POCD and deny this application. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Susan Hoyer Dannenhoffer

Alex M. Dannenhoffer
1277 Mount Carmel Avenue
North Haven, Connecticut 06473
(203) 239-6222

March 29, 2021

Mr. Alan Fredricksen
Land Use Administrator
Town of North Haven
Town Hall Annex
5 Linsley Street
North Haven, CT 06473

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Mr. Alan Fredricksen
Land Use Administrator
Town of North Haven
March 29, 2021
Page Two

I ask you to support the efforts to preserve the sensitive ecosystem of this area of our town, preserve its pastoral character, adhere to the POCD and deny this application. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex M. Dannenhoffer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Alex M. Dannenhoffer

Alan Fredricksen

From: JEAN B MAURO <jean.b.mauro@snet.net>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:48 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@FILLaw.com; Slate School
Subject: Slate School application for zoning approval for Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing in support of the application for Slate School's Upper School on Ridge Road.

While I lived for 40 years on Mountain Brook Road and know the subject site well, two years ago I retired from corporate law practice and moved to Elim Park in Cheshire, so I now have no "skin in the game," as the saying goes. Prior to North Haven, I lived in Branford and served four years on the PZC there; however, I have not seen the current Slate School application, so I can offer no comments on its details. I will note, however, for anyone concerned about the usual stuff, the Zillow value of my former house on Mountain Brook Road has gone up 15% in the past year, Town school busses are already present twice a day, and principal access will be by Mt. Carmel Ave., not from the Blue Hills side.

The main purpose of this email is to offer my personal insights into the project, my reactions to the existing Lower School, my expectations for the current project, and the people involved in Slate School's remarkable educational undertaking.

I got to know Jennifer Staple Clark some years ago in the early stages of Slate School's evolution, when she was inviting the public to meet with her to hear her ideas. Coming from a family of teachers and having done a lot of law mentoring myself, I was intrigued by her ideas, her dedication to them and to charitable works, and so I have been following the progress of Slate School ever since.

After the existing Slate School was up and running, I asked for a tour. When I turned into the driveway, I stopped in astonishment. I had attended the zoning hearings and seen the drawings, all of which were very nice, but the finished product was stunning. I parked my car in the driveway and walked the site to absorb how they had changed a wasteland into a beautiful park and nature preserve. That is what I expect would happen with the current church site.

The Clarks want the best for their projects, they do their homework, hire the best people for the job, use the best materials, and get it done. If something isn't right, they fix it. My expectation is that if the present zoning permit is granted, the new school will be an asset to the neighborhood and the Town, and indeed to the State of Connecticut, and will be an attraction that residents show to their visitors.

In conclusion, I will note that the Clarks have built their own home within walking distance of both schools. They must intend to be good neighbors. I would expect their schools to be good neighbors too.

Thank you for your attention.

Jean Mauro

Alan Fredricksen

From: Anthony Rescigno <arescigno5966@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 4:03 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Subject: Slate School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Alan

I hope you are doing well and surviving the COVID craziness.

I would like to weigh in with my support for their latest development application. I believe that having elite schools in The Town is a positive thing. It adds quality and value to the Community. I also believe that the Clarke family have been very responsible neighbors. Please have this email go on record in support of the project.

Thanks Tony

Leslie Carney

From: drr0419@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 12:10 PM
To: Leslie Carney
Cc: drr0419@gmail.com
Subject: RE: P&Z sample letter for Zoom meeting on 4/5/21
Attachments: Sample Letter.jpg; Proof Of Mailing.jpeg; Abutters List.jpeg

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Leslie,

As requested, 1 copy of our notification letter, abutters list from the Assessors office and proof of mailing from Post Office. All letters were sent certified.

Please let me know if you need anything additional.

Again, your help is very much appreciated.

Denise

From: drr0419@gmail.com <drr0419@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 11:04 AM
To: 'Leslie Carney' <Carney.Leslie@northhaven-ct.gov>
Cc: drr0419@gmail.com
Subject: RE: P&Z sample letter for Zoom meeting on 4/5/21

Leslie,

I cannot thank you enough for your help this morning and the sample letter. Information very helpful.

I have abutters list from the Assessor's office and the letters are done. On my way to post office now.

Will follow up with 1 copy of our letter, abutters list and proof of mailing when I get back.

Very appreciative of your time this morning.

Denise Reynolds

From: Leslie Carney <Carney.Leslie@northhaven-ct.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 9:59 AM
To: 'drr0419@gmail.com' <drr0419@gmail.com>
Subject: P&Z sample letter for Zoom meeting on 4/5/21

Good Morning Denise,

Alan Fredricksen

From: Mary Quinn-Devine <mmqd7@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 12:37 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen; TLee@FILL.com; info@slateschool.org; Mary Quinn-Devine
Subject: Slate School Proposal for the Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Fredricksen, Attorney Lee and Slate School Personnel,
Greetings and Happy Spring!

I am a retired Teacher ,who taught for forty two years, thirty one of those years here in North Haven. Also, I am a North Haven resident of thirty eight years!

I enthusiastically endorse the Slate School's detailed and thoughtful Plan to establish the Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road. In addition to a an excellent, expansive curriculum, skill in nurturing and guiding students' curiosity, and intentional concern and care for the environment, their intent to preserve and repurpose the abandoned church building is a noble undertaking!

Three and a half years ago, I actively supported the Slate School's Proposal for the Lower School at 124 Mansfield.by attending all the meetings and writing emails. I do now and will continue to support the Slate School and its Staff in their commitment and dedication to a much needed educational experience.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter and including my email of support.

Gratefully,
Mary M. Quinn-Devine
196 Rock Road
North Haven, CT

Alan Fredricksen

From: Amy Chai <amy.f.chai@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 6:49 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen; tlee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.com
Subject: Slate school

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am writing to voice my support for the proposed Slate Upper School to be erected at the site of the former Mount Carmel Christian Church.

I have seen the plans for the building and I feel that they have incorporated a respectful use of the space.

There is a need for an upper school to be opened for the graduating students of the Slate School, and I do feel that the planned design is in keeping with the tasteful and unobtrusive use of space in our neighborhood. I do not feel that this school will be problematic for the neighborhood, particularly given the fact that the lower school has not caused the significant traffic impact that was initially feared. I often walk by the location and have not found the traffic patterns altered.

In summary, I feel that the use of the property for educational purposes is in keeping with the character of our neighborhood.

Best regards,

Amy Fogelstrom Chai, MD MS
144 Blue Hills Road, North Haven

Alan Fredricksen

From: Nancy Bianchi <nancy.bianchi@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 23, 2021 8:08 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@FILLaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate School Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am a resident of 36 Hartley Street in town, and I am writing this email to you in support of the impending project at Slate School to increase their reach to students in upper grades. I believe that the school's presence is a benefit to the town, and their careful consideration of the use of the land they occupy is important to note as well.

If you have any questions, or desire further information as to my support of Slate School, you may respond via email.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Bianchi

Alan Fredricksen

From: Reed, Jonathan <jonathan.reed@yale.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:17 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@FILLaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I'm writing with my support for the Slate Upper School building proposal at 5100 Ridge Road. As a resident of North Haven since 2014, I am excited to live in a town that houses a school as innovative as Slate. It's important for a community to have alternatives to traditional public schools.

Thank you,
Jon Reed
1980 Hartford Tpke, North Haven

Alan Fredricksen

From: Sarah Reed <sarahreed2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:26 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate School proposal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for the proposed building expansion of Slate School at 5100 Ridge Road. My family and I have been North Haven residents for 7 years, and I am delighted to know that this innovative school has been established here in our community. I support this measure to further the school's growth and success.

Thank you,

Sarah Reed
1980 Hartford Turnpike,
North Haven

Alan Fredricksen

From: Tiffany Israel <tiffanyisrael@me.com>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:26 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com
Subject: Slate School Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a North Haven resident residing at 119 Ridgewood Avenue in North Haven, CT. I am writing in support of the Slate School plan to build an Upper School on the land of 5100 Ridge Road. While some have concern that this may be intrusive to the surrounding wetlands or neighbors, careful research about what and how the founders of Slate School are approaching the environmental questions reveals they would be doing the area a service. They would be building a structure that is thoughtfully designed to minimize ecological footprints. That would likely not be the case with any party that would purchase and develop the space. Given that the area already has traffic from Quinnipiac and Sleeping Giant State Park members and visitors, the addition of such a unique, small school that is not using busing adds value to the area.

Also, as a parent of a bright neuro atypical child, for whom the public school system is not a good fit, access to other options that would be a better fit and are in close proximity is paramount to us. Even more, this is a school that makes that option financially accessible. They choose to do the right thing at each turn and will do so for the land at 5100 Ridge Road.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Israel

Alan Fredricksen

From: Shane Quinn <shanepatrickquinn@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:28 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: In Support of The Slate Upper School (5100 Ridge Road)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Alan:

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Shane Quinn. My wife and I are residents of North Haven and have been for almost 4 years.

I'm writing to you today in support of The Slate Upper School project at 5100 Ridge Road. My understanding is that a proposal for development is under review by you and your office, so I wanted to take a moment to lend my voice to the large group of residents who feel the project is not only worthwhile, but also necessary for the continued diversification of idea, thought, and resource within our town.

As a friend of The Slate School, I've seen first-hand the success the lower school has had in its relatively short time in operation. Working in higher education, I can honestly say the forward vision and curiosity-driven curriculum is unlike anything I have been exposed to in my career, and that the town is lucky to have such a unique institution call it home. I have every confidence that the proposed upper school will not only mimic the successful model set by the school's founders and leadership, but far exceed it, further attracting outstanding young thinkers and their families to the town of North Haven.

As a homeowner, I also recognize the concerns other citizens and neighbors may have about its disruption to the surrounding area and environment. Having visited the lower school and grounds multiple times, the amount of care and consideration that went into the development is a model to me for how careful care and consideration should be given to our relationship with the land around us. Within their operation, they have proven to be one of the most environmentally-friendly schools in the country. This, coupled with their unique indoor-outdoor curriculum, again give me every confidence that the upper school's development will be done with the most compassion and concern for all it touches.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support of this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need to.

Best,
Shane Quinn
11 Sherwood Drive
North Haven, CT 06473

--

Shane P. Quinn
(203) 605-4842 (cell)
shanepatrickquinn@gmail.com

Alan Fredricksen

From: Jennifer Baker-Daniels <jbake566@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 2:41 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen; TLee@FILLaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate school

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,
I am writing as a long time resident of North Haven in regards to Slate School. I wanted to show my support for the new campus at 5100 ridge rd in north haven. I believe this would a wonderful opportunity for local students to have an upper school added. The Clarks have been very generous in forming the lower school and we truly appreciate their time and effort.
Jennifer Baker-Daniels

Alan Fredricksen

From: morrissheehan@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 4:35 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Subject: Proposed School at 5100 Ridge Road

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,
As a resident of North Haven, I strongly support this upper school addition because it is small but will be a real educational improvement to our community.
Sincerely,
Morris C. Sheehan

Sent from my iPhone

Alan Fredricksen

From: Offutt, Judy <judy.offutt@yale.edu>
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 4:47 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: tlee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: North Haven P&Z

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To North Haven P&Z, care of Alan Fredricksen

I am a North haven town resident and I support the use of 5100 Ridge Road for Slate School's Upper School. Slate School is focused on good, sound environmental principles. I support the mission of this school.

Regards,
Judy Offutt
North Haven Resident

Alan Fredricksen

From: Cole, Robert <robert.cole@yale.edu>
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 9:58 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate Upper School plans for 5100 Ridge Road

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Alan Fredricksen
Land Use Administrator
Town of North Haven
Memorial Town Hall
18 Church Street
North Haven, CT 06473

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am writing today to convey my enthusiastic support for plans put forward by Slate School for an Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road. As a longtime Ives Street neighbor (my home is on the Hamden side of Ives Street, literally across the street from the North Haven part of the neighborhood), I can say, without the slightest reservation, that the current Slate School on Mansfield Road has been a tremendous asset to the area. Not only does the school offer a top-notch educational experience for those fortunate enough to be enrolled, but it has also demonstrated an extraordinary regard for the ecology, natural beauty and rhythms of its surroundings by blending with the environment in a highly respectful and sensitive manner. Since walking in the neighborhood is one of my preferred forms of exercise, I frequently walk past the Lower School on Mansfield Road as well as the former church at 5100 Ridge Road, depending on which route I decide to take.

Given the track record and solid commitment of Slate School, I have absolutely no doubt that, if granted permission to develop the 5100 Ridge Road property, the end result will be something we all will be exceptionally pleased with and proud of. Simply put, the Town of North Haven (as well as neighboring Hamden) and the residents of Outer Ridge Road and Mt. Carmel Avenue could not ask for a better organization to purchase and re-purpose 5100 Ridge Road. The founders and leaders of Slate School are serious and passionate about transforming the property in the most ecologically friendly and environmentally responsible way.

Anytime change is proposed with an impact, positive or negative, on a neighborhood, it's understandable that neighbors and town officials will have questions and reservations. However, in this case, all concerned have everything to gain and nothing to lose if the town approves the Upper School plans submitted by Slate School.

Thank you for considering my input.

Respectfully,

Robert Cole
402 Ives Street
Hamden, CT 06518

Alan Fredricksen

From: Alicia Burr <ali5burr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 8:25 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: Tlee@FiLLaw.com; infor@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate school Upper ridge road

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Alicia Burr and we live at 41 Kings Highway North Haven. Our house abuts the property of the slate school lower class. When I first met with Jennifer to see the plans for at the time idea of building a school I was very skeptical. However over the past years since inception I have found the property and grounds to be very aesthetically pleasing and not at all disruptive to our backyard or surrounding neighbors. When I walk it is most enjoyable to see how well kept and quiet this school is. There has been no traffic disruption or long lines of cars.

They have really made the grounds and school more pleasing to the eye since the land was just sitting prior to them developing.

I can honestly say after seeing the first school go up I would be in full support of their upper school going forward. Currently the church laying vacant is an eye sore and I am in no doubt, while preserving the church and history, confident how well manicured and pleasing to the eye the property will be. One can judge themselves by just looking at the current slate school.

There can be alot of options to the property on Ridge Road but I think our best option in this neighborhood is the school. Its quiet, traffic is not an issue at all, the grounds are perfection and it really does bring value to this town.

For people that are opposed, I believe they are not looking objectively because I'm not quite sure why you would vote against this project after seeing the initial slate school now.

I hope they can move forward with this project.

Alicia Burr
41 Kings Hwy
North Haven, CT
203-668-9885
ali5burr@yahoo.com

Alan Fredricksen

From: Alicia Burr <ali5burr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 8:14 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: jstaple@uniteforsight.org
Subject: Re: Slate school Upper ridge road

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

On Mar 19, 2021, at 8:24 PM, Alicia Burr <ali5burr@yahoo.com> wrote:

My name is Alicia Burr and we live at 41 Kings Highway North Haven. Our house abuts the property of the slate school lower class. When I first met with Jennifer to see the plans for at the time idea of building a school I was very skeptical. However over the past years since inception I have found the property and grounds to be very aesthetically pleasing and not at all disruptive to our backyard or surrounding neighbors.

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I hope they can move forward with this project.

Alicia Burr
41 Kings Hwy
North Haven, CT
203-668-9885
ali5burr@yahoo.com

Alan Fredricksen

From: Kelliann Costanzo <kellianncostanzo@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 4:46 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Support for Slate Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

North Haven Planning & Zoning Commission, Care of Alan Fredricksen

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am a resident of Hamden, CT. I am familiar with Slate School and supportive of Slate Upper School's plans for 5100 Ridge Road.

Sincerely,

Kelliann Costanzo

Fallon Company

General Contractors

355 Sackett Point Road, Unit 31

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

203-288-6241 phone, 203-288-2974 fax

March 19, 2021

Mr. Alan Fredricksen
Planning and Zoning Department
Town of North Haven
18 Church Street
North Haven, CT 06473

Re: Slate School, 124 Mansfield Road

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am a resident of 4 Kings Highway in North Haven and wish to express my support for the Slate School's expansion project. The Slate School has proven to be an asset to the Blue Hills neighborhood especially in maintaining the overall atmosphere and appearance of the area. They are a considerate neighbor, and I fully endorse their proposal for their Upper School expansion. I believe their proposal makes excellent use of an existing structure and is superior environmentally to other possible uses of the property.

I hope you will approve the proposal submitted by the Slate School.

Sincerely,



John T Fallon III
4 Kings Highway
North Haven, CT 06473

Gershon Hasin
111 Russell St.,
Hamden, CT 06517

March 19, 2021

Alan Fedricksen
Planning and Zoning Commission
North Haven, CT
Via Email

To Whom it May Concern,

Re: Support for Slate Upper School's use of 5100 Ridge Road

I write to express my family's support for the Slate Upper School's use of 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven. We have had the good fortune of sending our child to the Slate Lower School this year, and we feel compelled to convey our appreciation for this school, and our belief that the Slate Upper School would benefit students and the community.

Slate School is truly a unique educational environment. It is not only nature based, so that our children are able to spend most of their time outside, learning in nature and learning from nature, but it is also curiosity driven. This means that the school is dedicated to teaching children in a way that preserves their curiosity as they grow and learn. The teachers at Slate think creatively of ways to teach the children as they play and infuse information to the children's fields of interest. Through this diligent and creative work of the teachers at Slate school, our children are able to learn and grow, all the while thirsting for more, and feeling empowered and capable to find the information they search for or are interested in learning. It is truly a school like no other.

Particularly for our daughter, we have seen how safe and nurtured she feels at Slate School. We know her personal strengths are appreciated by her teachers, and she is encouraged to be herself. We have seen her learn so much through joyful play, all the while her love of learning and her curiosity remain as strong as ever. We have witnessed her become more comfortable with nature and more confident about her ability to play and learn outdoors. Slate has given her all these gifts and many more.

We could not stress enough what a gift it is for Slate School to open an Upper school for children. So often children's curiosity, confidence, and empathy are not nurtured enough, especially in upper classes. To know that Slate School will be there to give children the tools and support they need to remain curious, creative, empathetic and joyful, through upper school and into adulthood, is truly wonderful.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter.

Kindest regards,
Gershon Hasin.

Naama Omri
111 Russell St.,
Hamden, CT 06517

March 19, 2021

Alan Fedricksen
Planning and Zoning Commission
North Haven, CT
Via Email

To Whom it May Concern,

Re: Support for Slate Upper School's use of 5100 Ridge Road

My name is Naama Omri, I have a child in Kindergarten at Slate School. I am writing to voice my wholehearted support for the Slate Upper School's use of 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven.

We consider ourselves immensely fortunate to have had the opportunity to send our daughter to Slate School this year. We cannot express to you enough the difference it has made in our daughter's life, and the growth we see in her since she started going to Slate School. In Slate School, we have found a warm and supportive space for our child to joyfully go every day, where she is able to learn and be stimulated, and most importantly, a place where her innate curiosity and love of learning is fostered and protected. The educational philosophy at slate School treats every child with respect, compassion and excitement, and the teachers at Slate School are truly exceptional.

We believe that the education system needs more schools like Slate schools, and that all children, no matter where they are, would benefit from the educational approach that Slate School is founded upon. All schools should aspire to protect their students' love for learning, their curiosity, and their creativity, as Slate does. Children should be allowed, as they are at Slate School, to spend time outside, connect with nature, and learn from it. Being in nature, the way Slate School allows, throughout the school day, and not simply for breaks, is not only healthy both physically and mentally, but it teaches children important skills that they could not learn while sitting in a classroom.

For all these reasons and more we were extremely excited to learn that the wonderful spirit and philosophy of Slate School would now be extended to the upper school, and the gifts Slate Schools has given our children will be offered to children at higher grades. We know, without a doubt, that the Slate Upper School will be a nurturing and engaging learning environment, which will allow its students to grow to be joyful learners, creative thinkers, and compassionate and kind human beings.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.
Sincerely,
Naama Omri.

Alan Fredricksen

From: Sean Houlihan <sean.houlihan@me.com>
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 7:48 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; Slate School
Subject: Slate Upper School

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To Whom It May Concern:

Our family resides in Wallingford, and in the Fall will have our son joining the vibrant Slate School Lower School community. It is our hope that he, and eventually his younger brother, be enrolled in Slate School through their proposed Upper School grades. It is our sincere belief that the sustainable aspects of the school, coupled with it's intense dedication to a superb education through nature- based exploration and creating a lifelong love of learning through innovative initiatives will create a ripple effect and have an intensely positive impact for generations to come.

We have no doubt that these principles will be applied as well to the proposed Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven, and enthusiastically welcome the ingenuity and imagination that will make this school an asset for all, not just those enrolled, but the community at large.

Thank you for considering our voicing support for the endeavour, which we so strong believe in.

Sincerely,

Sean & Kristin Houlihan

Alan Fredricksen

From: Doug Hansen <dhansen@wiclark.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:37 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Subject: Slate Upper School

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In reviewing their summary, I do not have any issue with allowing the new school to be approved. We live on Ridge Road between Mansfield and Blue Hills.

We have seen little or no effect on traffic or otherwise from the school on Blue Hills and assume there would be a similar situation with the proposed upper school.

I would surmise that most of the traffic would be coming from Mt Carmel Ave that already is designed to accommodate a good amount of traffic.

The design, build, and upkeep of the Blue Hills school surpassed my expectations. I think that is well sited to provide minimal disruption of the existing land.

I would assume the new proposal would provide a similar feel.

Thus I think their project will be good for the town and I hope you are able to approve it.

Doug Hansen
3106 Ridge Road

Alan Fredricksen

From: Liz Dorney <lizdorney@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10:54 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: Slate School; TLee@fillaw.com
Subject: a note of support for Slate Upper School

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Hello Mr. Fredricksen,

I'm a parent of a second grade student currently enrolled at Slate School. This is my daughter's second year and nothing makes me happier than to see her thriving in a community of kind & creative friends, like-minded families and visionary teachers.

We have no qualms about our 30 minute drive to North Haven to be a part of this unique group of life-long learners. Every time I drive onto campus, I am so grateful to have found a school that has reimagined learning to be fluid, joyful and student-led. I wish my early education could have taken place in a nature-based program like this!

Yet even as our daughter's academic needs are fulfilled by this wonderful community, I often wondered about her path past 6th grade. Our family is thrilled to hear this opportunity for curiosity-based learning can continue on nearby at Slate's Upper School at 5100 Ridge Rd.

Before we decided to enroll our daughter at Slate School, we considered several other independent options in the greater New Haven area and completed a year in a public school system. We are sure this unique school is key to our daughter's educational path and as a parent, it has helped to fundamentally change my approach to learning and how to nurture it through childhood.

Thank you to your town for welcoming this forward-thinking school, where education can be reshaped and reimagined! I continue to be inspired by its vision every day.

With gratitude,
Elizabeth Dorney

Alan Fredricksen

From: Anthony Costanzo <acostanzo@alumni.harvard.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:06 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Support for Slate Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attn: North Haven Planning & Zoning Commission, Care of Alan Fredricksen

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am a resident of the town of Hamden who is familiar with Slate School. The school's mission to change the education landscape by nurturing creativity, fostering ingenuity, and inspiring a passion for lifelong, curiosity-driven learning and discovery through its nature-based learning pedagogies is admirable.

To that end, I am writing to express my support for Slate Upper School's plans for 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven, CT.

Sincerely,

Mr. Anthony Costanzo

Alan Fredricksen

From: Tim Lee <TLee@FILLaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:32 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Subject: FW: Slate School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Alan,
I am forwarding this letter for Slate. She used the wrong email address.

Timothy J. Lee, Esq.
Fasano, Ippolito, Lee & Florentine, LLC
388 Orange Street
New Haven, Ct 06511
Ph. (203) 787-6555
Fax (203)776-2119

From: Jennifer Giering <jennifergiering@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 2:29 PM
To: fredericksen.alan@town.north-haven.ct.us; Tim Lee <TLee@FILLaw.com>; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Re: Slate School

To whom it may concern,

I have lived with my family in North Haven for 18 years. We chose the town of North Haven for the school system and opted to live in the Whitney Ridge neighborhood because of the elementary school and the Integrated Day program. North Haven is one of two districts in the state that have the Integrated Day program, a project based multi grade program teaching student guided education; a program similar to the ideals of the education base at Slate School. I support the Slate School and their hope to extend the school through the upper grades. I cannot think of any reason why a town would not want to support a school providing such educational excellence. After visiting the school grounds last week and speaking with Jennifer Clark and Julie Mountcastle, my support is overwhelming for the addition of this k-12 school in our town. Mike Freda has been such a strong supporter of growth and development in town, I encourage his support for the development of this strong pillar of education. I cannot offer enough praise for the ideals of the education Slate School offers.

Jennifer Giering
203-464-2810
jennifergiering@sbcglobal.net

Alan Fredricksen

From: David Starkey <starkey826@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Subject: Slate Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning and Zoning,

I am writing this letter to give my full support for the building of the Slate Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road.

I am parent of a child at the lower school and have seen firsthand the amazing educational program that is being created. The upper school will only enhance the wonderful things happening at the lower school and I believe the upper school will not only be a wonderful asset to North Haven, but will help to create an exciting new educational model for the world.

So, I ask that you support the important educational work they are doing by allowing them to take the next step to fully realize the potential of Slate School and it's mission.

Thank You,
David Starkey

Alan Fredricksen

From: jiyoun Chang <jiyoun.chang@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:45 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: Slate School; TLee@fillaw.com
Subject: Regarding Slate Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Alan Fredrickson, Land Use Administrator in Town of North Haven,

I hope this email finds you and your family well and safe.

My name is Jiyoun Chang, a parent of a child who goes to Slate School in North Haven. I am writing to you regarding Slate Upper School.

This pandemic hit us all really badly. I am a theatre lighting designer and had to walk away from a production in the middle of it. All of the theatres I worked at closed down and we all felt lost and didn't know what to do. I don't believe anyone really knew how to deal with the situation. In the meantime, Slate school picked up a big task and reacted to the lockdown quite quickly. They carefully figured out how to make a new normal and dove into a remote learning thoughtfully before anyone knew how to.

However, the remote learning didn't change much of their fundamental education philosophy, Child centered and Curiosity driven. They still focused on the process of learning, the learning journey. They honored the obstacles each family had to deal with, and asked us to guide our children as they did previously in-person. All parents did as much as they could at home. That's when I got to know more about how Slate school teachers played with our children.

We kept our screen time to minimum as usual. We spent a lot of time outside. We observed nature and put them on our paper. We learned side by side.

Our children worked on their own unique projects and school provided books for them. Kids discussed their projects with teachers and friends, and found connections to each other's subjects throughout morning meetings and afternoon meetings. We made sure teachers could see our children's footsteps and discoveries, observations and wonderings. Teachers responded to those documents on a daily basis.

At the end of Spring semester, every kid got a special award from school based on what they have discovered and what they were excited about their projects.

During Summer break, we volunteered to take care of vegetables at school, and keep a diary about those plants together. Each child brought tomatoes, beans, and potatoes home for dinners.

After Summer, Slate school's wonderful facility and beautiful landscape allowed kids to go back to school in-person full time. Vigorous temperature taking in the morning before entering into a school building, constant monitoring from a school nurse, more outdoor learning time, and responsible social distancing at home made our kids' in-person learning possible safely.

Our children worked on three individual projects and Nutcracker Project since the lockdown. My child's project subjects were Andes Mountains, The Beatles, and Theodor Roosevelt, and she can't wait to work on her next subject, Chinchillas, which she picked up from Andes Mountain Project.

Alan Fredricksen

From: Amit Mehra <amit8182@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 8:16 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: info@slateschool.org; TLee@fillaw.com
Subject: Slate Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

My name is Amit Mehra I am a resident of Milford and my daughter, Abigail Mehra, is attending Kindergarten in Slate school. I fully support the Slate Upper school use at 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven. Seeing my daughters development in the past 6 months, has been a breath of fresh air that came into all of our lives. Abby looks at everything with eyes of exploration, a true sense of desire to understand what goes on around us. Her communication skills have increased, she is able to participate in a conversation with putting in her part and her thoughts in the conversation which I think is remarkable. She understands more her part in a whole, how she can bring something of her own to contribute to tasks that involve everyone. Abby recognizes types of birds, other animals and really likes looking at nature. She is better with numbers, and her creating skills are really great. I can keep going but I think you get the picture. I am filled with gratitude to have my child in Slate school, they have been a true blessing and a learning experience to our family.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, I am happy I had to express how I feel about the school.

Thank you,

Amit Mehra

Alan Fredricksen

From: Peg Lynch <plynch@presscuozzo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:59 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Peg Lynch, and I am writing in support of the building of Slate Upper School.

I have been a licensed real-estate agent working locally for over 25 years. I recently worked with Slate School's Curator to find a home in North Haven, so that she could be closer to the school. She works there, her son attends, and her other son will in two years. The school has been such a significant part of their lives that they have made the choice to move.

As an experienced real estate agent with Press Cuozzo Realtors and someone who holds a degree in early childhood education, I know that a good school can attract homebuyers to an area, and - particularly when the architect, builder, and others involved are as attentive to detail, beauty, and environmental impact as those working on Slate Upper School- a lovely school is only a benefit to a neighborhood.

As a parent of children who attended a local independent school, I appreciate the individualized experience an independent school can offer children and am amazed at Slate's unprecedented financial aid policy that ensures that finances will never be a barrier to admission.

Thank you.

Peg Lynch

Peg Lynch
Press Cuozzo Realtors
2751 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518
Ph(203)288-1900X145
Cell (203)641-5749
Fax (203)288-0100
Email:plynch@presscuozzo.com

Follow me on Instagram: Lynch.peg

Licensed in the State of Connecticut
Real Estate Broker #0755977

Alan Fredricksen

From: Amy Grotzke <amygrotzke@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 8:13 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@FILLaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate School Letter of Support

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am writing in support of the proposed Slate School at 5100 Ridge Road. Our family moved to North Haven in large part due to the town's commitment to education, and I have followed the Slate School's progress over the past several years because of their unique educational and environmental model and because my child's favorite former teacher is the Head of School. I was pleased to hear about the school's expansion plans.

Julie Mountcastle was my now 13-year-old's fourth and fifth grade teacher, an experience that was transformational for his educational path. Julie nurtured his creativity and encouraged his interests, and the two years he spent in her classroom were a gift. It was bittersweet that she moved on to the Slate School before she could spend another two years with my younger child, but creating an entire school around Julie's educational practices and mission is a priceless addition to our town.

North Haven is lucky to have Julie Mountcastle and the Slate School team teach its children, and I hope the proposed project at 5100 Ridge Road is allowed to move forward.

Sincerely,

Amy Grotzke
52 Northside Road
North Haven, CT 06473

Alan Fredricksen

From: PAV-Joseph <preethiav@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:16 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: To North Haven Planning and Zoning Commission c/o Alan Fredricksen

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I have been a resident of North Haven since 2015 and I am writing to express my support for the application that the Planning and Zoning Commission is considering for the Slate Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road.

I have visited the Slate School and have been completely impressed by the growth of the school over the past few years. I have had the opportunity to meet with the teachers and Jennifer Staple-Clark and see the school "in action." I have heard from my neighbors and friends whose children have been going to the school and they all have tremendous praise and admiration for the teachers and the care their children are receiving. I have also spoken with neighbors and with friends who are excited about the possibility of sending their children to an independent school in North Haven rather needing to travel to New Haven and other towns.

Slate School filled the need for high quality education, whilst providing for a nurturing and safe environment for the children. My husband and I serve on the boards of two different independent schools in New Haven and we value the work that Slate School does. Slate did not exist when I was looking for an independent school for my children which is why we travel to New Haven. Slate offers an excellent opportunity to attract new families to North Haven.

I see the new upper school as an expansion to this work in establishing an independent school education presence in our town and for our community. I see this as an added value for the town of North Haven.

I hope the town will consider approving the application for the Slate Upper School.

Sincerely,

Preethi Varghese-Joseph
160 Tokeneke Drive
North Haven, Connecticut 06473

Alan Fredricksen

From: ANNE BENOWITZ <ahben11@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 11:32 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: tlee@fillaw.com; Slate School
Subject: The Slate School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Alan,

Please accept this note of support for the new Slate School "Upper School" being proposed at 5100 Ridge Road. I support this project from both an Economic Development perspective, and from the perspective of diversifying our town's educational choices. The Clarks have proven to be great "neighbors" of the area, with the opening and continued running of the lower school. My hope, as a resident, is to have projects like these be supported and encouraged. Thank you.

Andrew L. Benowitz
15 Marion Drive
North Haven, CT 06473

Alan Fredricksen

From: Joni Stone <joni.midwife@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:03 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@FILLaw.com; info@slateschool.org; abranjsmith@gmail.com
Subject: Email in Support of Slate Upper School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

March 3, 2021

Via Email

North Haven P&Z

Attention:
Alan Fredricksen, Land Use Administrator
Fredricksen.alan@town.north-haven.ct.us

Re: P&Z Town Approval for Construction of Slate Upper School

Dear Mr. Fredricksen and North Haven P&Z,

The purpose of this email is to show my support for Slate School's plans to begin construction of an Upper School on land located at 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven, CT.

I am a long-time resident of and healthcare provider in Hamden. I am the founder of Circle of Life Midwifery and have friends and patients whose children attend Slate Lower School.

Slate's unique, curiosity-driven and nature-based school is a welcome addition to our community. For this reason, I kindly ask that you approve construction for the Slate Upper School.

Sincerely,

Joni Stone, CPM

Hamden Resident
Founder of Circle of Life Midwifery

Cc: Tim Lee TLee@FILLaw.com, Slate School info@slateschool.org, Abran Smith abranjsmith@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

Alan Fredricksen

From: Douglas Davie <douglasdavie@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 1:00 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@FILLaw.com; info@slateschool.org; Jennifer Staple-Clark
Subject: Slate Upper School proposal

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March 1, 2021

re: Slate Upper School, 5100 Ridge Road, North Haven Proposal

Dear Mr. Alan Fredricksen
North Haven Planning & Zoning,

As a North Haven area family of four generations, we wholly support the proposal for Slate Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven. Being very familiar with the neighborhood, (family home of 54 years at 11 Ridgewood Terrace and owners of 182 Ives Street residence since 1994), we see The Slate School as a positive asset contributing to our local community.

We believe it is in the highest and best interest of all concerned, neighbors, community and environment, to have the vacant former Mount Carmel Christian Church property continue as a place to congregate for a higher purpose; that being The Slate Upper School. Their mission, to provide inspired and creative learning and to respectfully embrace and preserve the environment, is most welcome and appropriate.

As demonstrated over the last few years, The Slate School at 124 Mansfield Road has integrated school, neighborhood and nature to exquisitely meet this purpose.

This school will help further enhance the 5100 Ridge Road facility as a place for learners and thinkers in the community. We look forward to The Slate School's Education Idea Lab and future presentation programs to be enriching local residents as well.

We hope the proposed Slate Upper School will soon be gracing our Sleeping Giant area. This proposal has our full blessings.

Alan Fredricksen

From: Susan Esposito-Mastroianni <sue.esposito@att.net>
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 3:18 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: Tlee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Support for Slate school upper at 5100 Ridge Road

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm a resident of North Haven, I've been familiar with Slate School since the inception of the idea, have visited Slate School at 124 Mansfield on multiple occasions, and I enthusiastically support the proposal for Slate Upper School at 5100 Ridge Road. I'm confident the Clark's will truly, respectfully reimagine the existing church space and any additional spaces on the property. The completed Slate School on Mansfield indicates the sincerity of their application and plans for the Upper School space.

Regards,

Susan Esposito- Mastroianni
11 Ridgewood Terr
North Haven, CT 06473

Sent from my iPhone

Alan Fredricksen

From: Aelah Meyer <aelahmeyer@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 11:25 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate Upper School Support

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the North Haven Planning & Zoning Committee:

I am writing to you in great support of Slate Upper School's plan for 5100 Ridge Road in North Haven.

I am a Hamden resident and have been an active member of the community for years. I am confident that Slate Upper School will be strong stewards of the land, and our children's futures. I've seen it first hand over the past few years with Slate Lower School, as I know people there whose children attend. They will be an asset to the community - I am fully confident of that.

Thank you for considering their request to move forward with the Upper School. So many will benefit from it.

Thank you,
Hamden Resident
Aelah Meyer

Alan Fredricksen

From: Helen Cullinan <helen.cullinan72@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 2:15 PM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: TLee@fillaw.com; info@slateschool.org
Subject: Slate School High School

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Fredricksen,

I am a Hamden resident and I have heard only good things about the Slate School and the way they respect the environment. They are good neighbors and I think they are a benefit to our area. I believe the building of the Upper School should be approved.

Best Regards,
Helen Cullinan

Alan Fredricksen

From: Margarita Mehra <margarita.mehra@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 11:11 AM
To: Alan Fredricksen
Cc: Slate School; TLee@FILLaw.com
Subject: Slate Upper School use at 5100 Ridge Road North Haven

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Margarita Mehra, and I am a resident of Milford. My daughter, Abigail Mehra is 6 years old and is attending Slate School kindergarten. Abby has only been attending the school since September and the impact this beautiful experience has had on her and our entire family is immense. The curiosity driven nature based learning that Slate embodies throughout the children's entire day, has bloomed a passion and a joy in her for learning. Abby is now so curious, she is constantly eager to explore, to see, to smell, to hear and learn about the world around her. I am truly amazed at Slate's ability to teach her so naturally, with a beautiful flow, without having it feel "forced", which is resulting in growing Abby's desire to want to learn and explore on her own, even when the school day has ended. She often asks me questions I do not know the answer to and we together go on a journey to find out the how or why. Abby's day at slate begins at 8:30 and ends at 5:00PM (Monday through Friday) while it's quite a long day yet when I pick her up everyday, she asks if she can stay longer and play. It is easy to see she does not view this place as just a school with 4 walls, it is one big giant, beautiful playground in nature.

When I heard there are plans for an upper school I cannot even begin to explain the joy and excitement! With that being said, I enthusiastically support of the Slate Upper School use at 5100 Ridge Road North Haven.

If there is anything else I can do please let me know. Please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Margarita Mehra
203.815.3528
Margarita.mehra@gmail.com