

Dear Commission Members:

I have lived in North Haven for over 40 years, previously in the Millbrook section, and for the last 20 years at 5061 Ridge Road, directly across the street from 5100 Ridge Road. The decision to build a school at that location will clearly impact my daily life.

After listening to hours hyperbole, dueling consultants, half-truths and irrelevant testimony, I have a few observations I wish to share:

- 1- No reasonable person could conclude that 5100 Ridge Road is a good place for a school.
- 2- No one has told the Commission why they think 5100 Ridge Road is a good place for a school.
- 3- School proponent mentioned a waiting list and possible school expansion. There is clearly no room for expansion at 5100 Ridge Road.
- 4- No one is against the concept of an upper Slate School someplace in North Haven.
- 5- The Clarks should be commended for spending their hard-earned money and considerable energy giving back to the community by leaving a legacy of a unique private school.
- 6- I don't believe anyone in North Haven wants to see continuation of the smoldering anger this project has engendered.

There are intelligent, well-educated, and reasonable individuals on both sides of this issue. Surely, a compromise solution can be found.

My personal suggestion is that the school developers sit down with Town planners to evaluate available and potentially available larger tracts of land to build the upper school. In the same way the 20-acre lower school site gives neighbors breathing room and allows for future expansion, a larger tract of land would be the best solution for the upper school. It would be a project we could all enthusiastically support.

Richard Mangi
5061 Ridge Road.