

From: <bdruffel@comey.com>
Date: Mon, Jun 13, 2016 at 11:02 AM
Subject: Having Certainty of School Option for Clifton
To: bdruffel@comey.com

To whom this may concern,

I have been asked numerous times by many neighbors, property owners, clients, and potential homeowners what is the effect on property values and neighborhood vitality as it relates to having a neighborhood school.

It is clear and logical that the long term stability and life of a community is benefited and perhaps assured, if a strong school option is available. It plays a vital role in a neighborhood's sustainability.

As a Realtor with 30 plus years in the industry and as one whose primary focus has been in the Clifton Neighborhood, I have the opportunity to hear and observe trends from many perspectives. Having grown up in Clifton, I have witnessed first-hand that the options for good schools are a life line to Clifton.

Over the last 6 months, I have been asked to sell three properties because families feel they have to move to find safe assured schools for their children. This and when people discuss their preference for living in Clifton, many have said if not for the school being so uncertain, they would buy here.

There is no doubt the Fairview School has bolstered the community and its vitality, but Fairview School offers no certainty for enrollment; this does not satisfy a family's need for school certainty. I hope that the perspective stated here will be another reason that CPS will work with Clifton to address and succeed in providing a great school alternative that assures residents of Clifton access to a school in which children of the community can thrive.

It seems too that as Clifton is one of the most historic and long lived neighborhoods, which has evolved from its proximity to the University, downtown, and the medical complexes, that having a school would be ideal to encourage those employees and leaders to locate close to where they work. But, we must have a community that offers basics: shopping, schools, and arts and recreation.

That the Hyde Park and neighboring communities have so many choices in these basic arenas is often commented upon by people I work with and it does beg the question, why such inequity.

Thank you for your considerations to my concerns and thoughts; I welcome any further communication.

Kindest regards,

Barbra Druffel

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Neighborhoods for over 35 years*

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