

26 January 2017

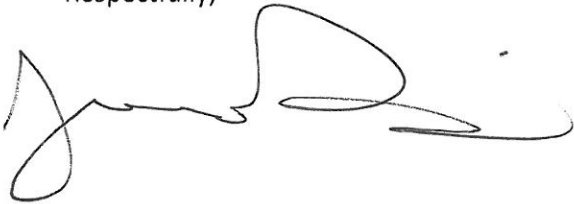
To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I are young professionals, and frequently discuss neighborhoods in Cincinnati in which we can picture our family. I am a psychiatric social worker, and my husband will be starting his residency in the summer when he graduates from medical school. We have always loved the Clifton neighborhood: the charm, convenience, location and culture. The large older homes are perfect for our growing family, and the location is perfect for both of our healthcare careers.

However, we recently learned of the public school situation in Clifton. We were aware of the previous "camp out" policy for the local elementary school. While this was not ideal, we were not dismayed by the need to do this in order to secure public education within the community. Now, we understand this is no longer an option, and a large portion of children in Clifton are assigned to a failing school in Avondale. While the voucher option is admirable, it is certainly concerning for us that children do not have a safe, effective, and guaranteed public school option within their own community.

Both my husband and I are the product of public school education, and will be looking for this option for our son, and any future children we have. Public, local schools tie children and families to their neighborhoods, and strengthen communities. They provide safety, growth and networking when they are available close to home. I am in support for the establishment of a neighborhood school in Clifton in order to build up children and families within Clifton, and encourage the growth and stability of the neighborhood for years to come. The availability of such a school would certainly influence our future decision of whether to raise our family in Clifton.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenna B. Saliba', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Jenna B. Saliba, MSW LSW

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