Laura Kohn 1421 N Payne St New Ulm MN 56073

Greater Nicollet Area Community Foundation

401 Pine Street

Nicollet, MN 56074

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To whom it may concern:

We have been part of the Nicollet Early Childhood Center (NECC) family for 6 ½ years and hope to continue to be a part of it for another 3 ½ years. Although we don't live in Nicollet, having a wonderful center so close to my job has been a blessing. I really like having my children only a couple of blocks away. We love the care so much there that we even open enrolled our oldest at Nicollet Public School where he is currently a first grader.

The playground at NECC has been enjoyed by many children in the last almost 20 years, but it is not able to be enjoyed by all. There are currently friends at the center who are not able to use it because it is not handicap accessible. It has served its purpose over the years but is no longer up to safety standards. It would be nice to see a new, updated, safe and accessible playground that will be enjoyed by many kids in the future.

Currently, the playground does not have any sun protection. It limits the times of the day that the kids can use it in the summer, especially the infants. Time outside playing is very important for kids' development since it not only helps wear off some energy but is also important in the development of their fine and gross motor skills and core strength. There is nothing better than seeing a child smile while playing at the playground.

A new playground at NECC would be a huge asset to the center, the community and the NECC family.

Sincerely,

Laura Kohn

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