

Dr. Rachael Loeb Batchu Mahmood
22922 Weinhold Drive
Plainfield, IL 60585

RE: KLA Naperville School

September 5, 2018

To: Whom it May Concern

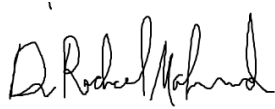
I am writing this letter to establish my support for the opening of a KLA school in Naperville. Naperville is known for having exemplary educational institutions, therefore opening a KLA school would align with Naperville's reputation. Having worked in District 204 in Naperville schools for the last 14 years, I know how much Naperville citizens value education. In addition, being an elementary school teacher myself, I was very particular in choosing a preschool for my own children. When I came upon, KLA-Plainfield, I was impressed with the owner, Selvei Rajkumar's, dedication to run an exemplary preschool. Some components of the school that were particularly impressive were the level of professionals that they hire, the amount of professional development that each teacher receives, the quality of the classroom materials, the Reggio philosophy of learning, as well as the level of parent engagement.

My daughter has attended KLA since she was 12 weeks old. Her experiences in the baby room were loving, caring, and enriching. Most importantly the rooms were kept impeccably clean. When she moved to the toddler room, I was really impressed with how engaging the teachers were and how they were already helping young kids to experience the world around them through their large interdisciplinary units. When my daughter moved to the two's rooms, her curriculum was accelerated as she learned about the ABC's, counting, and colors and more complex vocabulary. In addition, the students were always actively engaged in learning enriched activities. My son started KLA in the 4's room. I was particularly impressed with the level of learning they were doing in the 4's room. In addition to learning all of the sight words for kindergarten, my son's background knowledge about the world exploded as he came home talking about things like the "Rosetta Stone", or people like "George Washington Carver- a Civil Rights hero". When my son was ready for Kindergarten, Plainfield only gave him half day. So he moved to the kindergarten room at KLA for the other half of the day. In all honesty, the kindergarten room at KLA was more academically rigorous, then Plainfield District 202, as he spent more time in math centers, guided reading, and writing journals. The level of creativity that the teachers used to teach basic math and reading concepts was beyond what they were doing in public school. In addition, the school also hosts a science fair, cultural week and provides all kids 3-5 years old with basic computing and coding skills. The students spent endless hours in their classroom gardens, engineering installations for their classroom (like a huge castle that the students fit inside of), and conducting experiments. And these types of activities continued through their school age program.

Each teacher journals about the students and keeps detailed records of each of the students' development. These are housed on their very own KLA app. Parents are able to view daily reports of what their child is doing in class, as well as, multiple photos. The level of data that the teachers collect about each child is very helpful in understanding the way students learn. Sharing this data with parents helps parents to reinforce the lessons taught in school at home. In addition to the all of the curricular

experiences, KLA provides organic food, promotes charity experiences, engages in regular visits with retirement homes, hosts multiple parent committees, and maintains an amazing “playscape” area with many “Children’s Museum” type activities for the kids. Adding a KLA school to Naperville would be a wise choice for the city. The philosophy of KLA schools align well with Naperville’s philosophy. I am confident that students would leave KLA better prepared for Kindergarten than most other preschools. If you have any further questions about this recommendation, or KLA, please do not hesitate to reach me at Rachael_Mahmood@ipsd.org or at 630-674-2231.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Rachael Mahmood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small mark above the first letter of the first name.

Dr. Rachael Loeb Batchu Mahmood