

Attention: Zoning Administrator
Re: Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Support of Increase of Number of Students by 4
Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Ave.

To the Zoning Administrator:

We are parents of a child at Exploring Minds Montessori on Hazeltine. We can honestly say that this school is the most incredible learning facility we have encountered. The enrichment and full scope of learning that our child has received during his now two year run, has been immeasurable and priceless. We know that there are several other early learning schools out there, but we can say with confidence that this one is the very best. We intend to send our youngest son there (who is now 1) when he becomes of age. The increase of students by 4 would be very helpful in getting our second son enrolled in the school.

We just wanted to inform you of this because sending our second son will not result in any additional drop off and pick up traffic to the school.

Thank you for your time,

Amanda and Ryan Soroka. – Liam and Chase's Parents

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amanda Soroka".

Amanda and Ryan Soroka
18961 La Amistad Place
Trazana, CA 91356

Re. Support of Increase of Number of Students by 4

Attention: Zoning Administrator
Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Ave.

To whom it may concern,

My daughter Ava Goetz, is currently enrolled at Exploring Minds Montessori (EMM) located at 5128 Hazeltine Avenue, Sherman Oaks. We cast a wide net when searching for a great first school to send our daughter to and EMM was selected based on their mission statement, feedback from other families enrolled and the quality of teaching staff. While we are new to the EMM family, I can already see the tremendous benefit and growth my daughter is experiencing. Ava is thriving in their program with increased confidence, knowledge and skills. EMM is a quality program with dedicated teaches and a rigorous curriculum. Given the current path Ava is on, I plan to enroll her younger sister, Olivia, at EMM within the next few years. With a cap on enrollment we are concerned a slot may not be available and therefore, we fully support the increase of students by 4, from 24 to 28 pupils so that our youngest daughter may also benefit from the high-caliber education EMM provides.

Optimizing the early years of children's lives is the best investment we can make as a society in ensuring their future success. We feel more children of diverse backgrounds should be able to benefit from an education at Exploring Minds Montessori.

Thank you for your consideration,

Leili Goetz

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leili Goetz', written in a cursive style.

5901 Balcom Ave.
Encino, CA 91316

THE HIETALAS
5002 NOBLE AVENUE
SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91403

Attention: Zoning Administrator
Re: Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Ave

Dear Zoning Administrator,

We are writing in support of the increase of 4 students at the Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Avenue. As residents of Sherman Oaks, we greatly support this Center and others like it, which enrich our children and ultimately our community with their principles and practices.

We would love to see them be able to accept a few more students to their program; students who will benefit greatly from the education they receive.

If you have any questions or would like to contact us for any reason, please do not hesitate to do so at our home address above.

Sending our very best,



Carineh Hietala



Eric Hietala

Attention: Zoning Administrator
Re: Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Support of Increase of Number of Students by 4
Child Care Center on [5128 Hazeltine Ave.](#)

January 16, 2018

Dear Zoning Administrator:

We write to enthusiastically support Exploring Minds Montessori, the child care center located at 5128 Hazeltine. Our son, Charlie has been enrolled there for the past two years and we can truly say it has been wonderful to find an enriching, diverse, and thoughtful school environment only a few blocks from our house. Kim was born and raised in Sherman Oaks and Encino and we are proud to be raising our own family here. This is one of the best preschools out there, and it's a credit to our community. When you enter the school, the calm environment and harmonious interplay between the children is truly something unique and special. We have a younger daughter, Katie, who is 2.5 years old. We would love to enroll her so she could get the same experience as her older brother and ease the transition to school. For us, and other families like ours with multiple children, it would be really helpful if the school was able to accommodate 4 more children. Please, don't hesitate to contact us if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly Ling Murtaugh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kimberly" being the most prominent.

Thomas and Kimberly Ling Murtaugh
14721 Killion Street
Sherman Oaks, CA 91411
kimberlyling@gmail.com

Shanon Peter, MD
14603 Killion Street
Sherman Oaks, CA 91411

January 9, 2018

Attention: Zoning Administrator
Re: Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Ave.

To whom it may concern:

I'm a young professional father of two toddlers. Since buying our first house in Sherman Oaks in 2015 (moving from an apartment in Culver City), we have benefitted tremendously from the tight-knit community that our neighborhood provides. A serendipitous experience which came out of living here was hearing repeated praise from two of our neighbors of Exploring Minds Montessori (EMM) School on Hazeltine St. We enrolled our older daughter, Lily, now 3.5 years old, in the school last September and we have been truly impressed. We have nothing short of fabulous things to say about the school, its curriculum, its families, and its faculty. The learning environment has been exceptional, and has welcomed our involvement including an interactive presentation that Lily and I made to the whole class regarding our recent world travels. It brings me joy that my daughter comes home after each school day with such a proud look of accomplishment on her face. And the expansion in her vocabulary has been astounding. EMM is truly an asset to the Sherman Oaks Community.

Due to our fantastic experience at EMM, we hope to enroll my 2 year old son Thomas there this coming September, at which point both of our children would overlap for another year until my daughter was ready for preschool. We are writing to advocate for the increase in student spots at the school, which if granted might be exactly what is needed for our son to be able to enroll. The school has made very responsible use of its long driveway and a dedicated attendant Jessica, to ensure minimal disruption to the neighborhood during drop-off and pick-up. From our experience at these times of day, four more students coming and/or going (or three more cars, if you count that our two kids would come together), would not add any noticeable congestion to the area. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,



Shanon T. Peter, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine @UCLA Geffen
shanon.peter@post.harvard.edu

Steven Petrarca
14641 Deervale Place
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Attention: Zoning Administrator

Re: Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Ave.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Exploring Minds Montessori is an invaluable asset to our neighborhood and our community. I honestly cannot imagine sending my children anywhere else. I'm so pleased with the care and the education they provide.

I have one son enrolled at the school and the experience has been so beneficial to his growth and development that we most certainly plan to enroll our twin daughters there later this year. The increase of number of students allowed would be very helpful to that end.

I see first-hand each day how much care the school administration takes to follow the agreed-upon rules to the letter of the law. They continuously remind the parents of exactly what restrictions have been placed upon them and see to it that everyone remains in compliance.

Exploring Minds administrators are committed to maintaining good relationships with the neighbors and uphold their end of the bargain in good faith at all times, as are all the parents of the students.

Please grant them the requested increase in enrollment.

Thank you!



Steven Petrarca

Attention: Zoning Administrator
Re: Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Ave.

Dear City of Sherman Oaks:

I'm a mom-of-two and homeowner here in Sherman Oaks, as well as a Hematologist/Oncologist physician at Kaiser Sunset. My older child has absolutely thrived at the wonderful learning environment provided by Exploring Minds Montessori pre-school on Hazeltine, and I hope to send my younger one there in the spring. I was writing to ask you to consider increasing the number of student spaces allotted by the town to the school, which is a limiting factor at this point.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tiffany A Hogan
14603 Killion St
Sherman Oaks, CA 91411
949-322-4562

January 10, 2018

Attention: Zoning Administrator

Re: Case Number: ZA-2013-2186-CU-ZV-PA1
Child Care Center on 5128 Hazeltine Ave.

Re: Support of Increase of Number of Students by 4

Dear Zoning Administrator,

Exploring Minds Montessori Hazeltine at 5128 Hazeltine Ave. in Sherman Oaks is an outstanding childcare center that excels in nurturing the development of the young children within the community. My daughter, Isabella, has been attending Exploring Minds Montessori Hazeltine for the past year and my husband and I cannot imagine her attending any other preschool.

We hope to send our son, Francis, to Exploring Minds Montessori Hazeltine and increasing the daily student capacity to 28 students will increase the possibility of him being able to attend. We would love to continue the wonderful experience we've had with Exploring Minds.

Doha and the rest of the administration at the school have made it a priority to follow the rules and agreements they have made with the neighboring community. They are constantly reminding the parents of these rules to ensure that everyone adheres to the restrictions. I am certain that the administration will see to it that an additional 4 students will not cause additional disruptions within the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Delgado

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Delgado'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop on the left side and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.