

A Message from Francis W. Parker School

From: [REDACTED]@fwparker.org

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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Cc: [REDACTED]

Date: Friday, June 21, 2019, 01:11 PM CDT



A Message from Francis W. Parker School

Dear Neighbors of Francis W. Parker School,

Thank you for your letter of June 14 expressing your concerns about the potential real estate opportunity presented to us by our Belden neighbors. Since our founding 117 years ago, Francis W. Parker School has aspired to be a good and respectful neighbor, and we are committed to being a good neighbor long into the future. In that spirit, we believe it is important to clarify several issues raised in your letter.

Please know that Parker was approached (not the other way around) by association leaders from the two condominium buildings regarding a possible sale of the buildings, which are contiguous to our campus and to each other. It was clear to Parker's administration and Board of Trustees that it was our fiduciary responsibility to seriously consider this unique opportunity.

To date, it is important to note that we do not have any agreement to purchase either building.

As we have already discussed with Alderman Smith, if we were ever able to move forward with either of these property purchases—and that is a very big if—we would implement an inclusive planning process that would include community feedback. The results would be rooted in our strategic plan and priorities, while also considering the needs and priorities of the surrounding community. As part of that process, we are committed to the following:

- Any new structure would be in keeping with the neighborhood aesthetic.
- The height would be roughly consistent with surrounding buildings. We do not plan on building a high-rise structure.
- We would not add an access door on Belden.
- Activity in a potential new space would be for daytime hours.
- Landscaping standards would meet or exceed what is already on the block and in the area.

In short, please be assured that Francis W. Parker School is committed to working with our neighbors in a relationship of good faith and mutual respect.

Best regards,

Rika Yoshida
Chair, Board of Trustees

Daniel B. Frank
Principal

cc: Michele Smith, Alderman, 43rd Ward

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