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**Dogwood Charter School**

P. O. Box 13394

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

dogwoodcharterschool@gmail.com

12th October 2020

**Dr. Johannah Vanatta**

Superintendent

2030 Swallow Hill Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15220

Dear Dr. Vanatta,

A charter school is in the planning stage for the South Hills of Pittsburgh, and our intent is to file a charter school application with the Chartiers Valley School District.

An interdisciplinary team began work in the fall of 2019, forming a collaborative to start a charter school in the South Hills of Pittsburgh. The founding principle is the understanding that each child has unique needs, and we believe that a charter school will offer a valuable option to the children of Bridgeville, Heidelberg, Collier and Scott Townships, and surrounding areas. Our motivation to create this charter school is to expand the educational opportunities within both the district and surrounding districts, to meet the diverse needs of many families and children.

Many things we do are based on having the opportunity to make choices. A charter school will give parents the opportunity to choose the educational environment that is best for their children. Every charter school has a unique focus, and ours is based on Charlotte Mason's educational philosophy of relational education. Educating the whole child will cultivate a learning organization upon the belief that children are foremost, persons. The nourishment of relationships, habits, and ideas not only prepare students for future education, but also foster within them an avid desire for a life of learning, enabling them to live confidently and resiliently. With belief in educating the whole child, please support this charter school being founded in your district.

Sincerely,

Dogwood Charter Founding Team

From: **Dogwood Charter School** <[dogwoodcharterschool@gmail.com](mailto:dogwoodcharterschool@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, Oct 19, 2020 at 8:35 AM  
Subject: Dogwood Charter School  
To: <[rkearney@cvsd.net](mailto:rkearney@cvsd.net)>

Good Morning Mr. Kearney,

I hope you had a wonderful weekend and enjoyed the beautiful weather. I wanted to take the time to introduce myself. My name is Beth and I am on the planning board for Dogwood Charter. We sent a letter to you last week and I wanted to take the time to check in with you after you received it. Under normal circumstances I would have wanted to meet you in person and talk to you about our intentions. With the pandemic and quick timeline I thought writing a letter was best. If you have any questions or would like to meet. Please let me know.

Thank you,

Beth

Dogwood Planning Board