0-40 34<sup>th</sup> Street Fair Lawn, NJ 07410 March 1, 2022

State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection, Natural & Historic Resources
Office of Leases & Concessions, Mail Code 501-04C
PO Box 420
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this note to lend my vote of confidence in the support of the fine folks who have taken on the task of resurrecting the School of Conservation at Lake Wapalanne. As a young boy I grew up fishing at the lake until it was taken over by Montclair University and became private property. Even still, my wife and I would take rides through the property reliving many fond memories of the past.

When I first read in the paper that the university was no longer interested in running the school I was deeply saddened as I realized our state was losing an important part of our education system. It was on one of these rides through the grounds that I met several of the ladies of the group that was trying to bring life again to the school.

When they emailed me telling me of the success that they had achieved I was thrilled. It has been my pleasure to attend several of their programs last year and get to know them on a real personal level. The passion that these folks showed was truly inspiring.

I truly hope and pray that they will be given the opportunity to revive this very special and historic school.

With sincere thanks for allowing me to offer my thoughts I remain,

Andrew and Jan Nero 973-919-5779