



December 1, 2017

City of Littleton
Community Development
Carol Kuhn, Principal Planner
2255 West Berry Avenue
Littleton, CO 80120

Dear Ms. Kuhn:

Mackintosh Academy has been nurturing the keen minds and compassionate hearts of gifted children in Colorado for the past 40 years as the first school for gifted students in the state. Founded by Eve Mackintosh, a celebrated educational pioneer, the school was originally located in Denver but moved to its current location on Prince Street in 1990. Since then, our suburban homelike setting has provided a nurturing day-school for our PreK through 8th grade students, and has served as a world-class educational resource for children and their parents in our neighborhood, the city of Littleton, and the greater South Metro areas. We are proud of our Littleton roots and invested in being good community members through service projects like adopting a nearby park, raking neighbors' leaves and painting electrical boxes.

Mackintosh takes very seriously its responsibility as an International Baccalaureate World School to foster the intellectual abilities of this important, underserved population. We are committed to developing twenty-first century innovators, creative thinkers and problem solvers who will make the world a better place. We are dedicated to the IB ideal of a rich, broadly-based education that fosters engagement in math, the arts and humanities, language, science and technology. In order to continue to fulfill that important mission, we must improve upon and expand our facilities.

Long gone are the days when students sit in rows of desks listening to the teacher as the sole classroom expert. Children need to move, to explore, to experiment, to implement. Our 2014 sixth grade class brought solar panels to all three of our buildings, making us the first majority solar-powered school in Littleton, and demonstrating, clearly, the impact of this kind of innovative and empowering education on young people and their community.

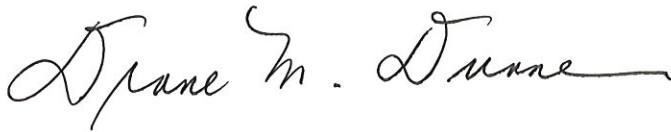
Mackintosh is already approved by the city for 148 students. We do not seek to increase that enrollment cap—we value the small class size and intimate learning environment that fits so well into our neighborhood setting—but we cannot currently serve that number with the high-quality

program we are committed to offering. To continue to offer our cutting-edge approach to teaching and learning, Mackintosh Academy needs 4200 additional square feet to provide the following:

- Raised performing arts stage and rehearsal space
- Art and design studio
- Teaching kitchen
- Additional restroom facility
- Expanded office space
- Science and technical design space
- Improved and expanded general classroom space

This proposal, which would be implemented in phases over several years, would also help the school improve its overall appearance and the view from Prince Street. The raised performing arts stage and enhanced science and design facilities would offer resources for enrichment after school and summer programs for our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Diane M. Dunne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Diane M. Dunne, Head of School
Mackintosh Academy, Littleton