



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

JB Pritzker, Governor
Colleen Callahan, Director

**Cook County
Winnetka**

Partial Demolition for New Construction of Building Addition and Parking Lot Expansion, New Trier High School

385 Winnetka Ave., Parking Lot - NE Corner Essex Rd. and Winnetka Ave.

NPDES-ILR10ZB6B

SHPO Log #008102121

December 17, 2021

**Chris Johnson
New Trier High School District
7 Happ Rd.
Northfield, IL 60093**

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is required by the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act (20 ILCS 3420, as amended, 17 IAC 4180) to review all state funded, permitted or licensed undertakings for their effect on cultural resources. Pursuant to this, we have received information regarding the referenced project for our comment.

Our staff has reviewed the specifications under the state law and assessed the impact of the East Side Academics and Athletics project as submitted by your office. The Leslie F. Gates Gymnasium and campus boiler plant, 385 Winnetka Ave, is eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as an excellent and well-preserved example of a public high school gymnasium in the context of Winnetka's and the school district's development. Our staff made this determination on December 3, 2021. Based on the available information, we have determined that the proposed demolition will result in an adverse effect, which must be mitigated (per 20 ILCS 3420, as amended, 17 IAC 4180).

On December 13, 2021 our staff met with the team at New Trier Township High School District 203 to discuss the East Side Academics and Athletics Project and possible mitigation efforts. On December 16, 2021 we received confirmation and a commitment from the District on those discussed mitigation efforts, which are presently underway.

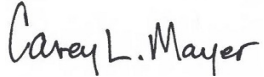
This letter formalizes our office's receipt and acceptance of photographic documentation of the referenced

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structures, the first phase of work outlined in your December 16 letter. The East Side Academics and Athletics Project may proceed with demolition of the Leslie F. Gates Gymnasium and campus boiler plant as proposed. Our staff will be available to consult on the next phase of mitigation efforts as those efforts are implemented and finalized.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act.

Sincerely,



Carey L. Mayer, AIA
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

c: Melissa Parrott, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Kristen Meyers, Eriksson Engineering Associates, Ltd.

NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203



To commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion, and lives to the service of humanity.®

PAUL SALLY, Ed.D
SUPERINTENDENT

December 16, 2021

CJ Wallace
Cultural Resources Coordinator
Illinois State Historic Preservation Office
Old State Capitol Building, 2nd Floor
One Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Dear Ms. Wallace:

Thank you for taking the time on December 13th, 2021 to speak to the team at New Trier Township High School District 203 about our East Side Academics and Athletics Project. As we discussed during the meeting, we are excited to document the history of the Leslie F. Gates Gymnasium and campus boiler plant as we move forward with construction work. New Trier takes pride in understanding and documenting our history, and we are prepared to move forward with the steps we discussed on the call, several of which have already begun.

The goal of our project will be to create a multimedia archive of the history of the facility and the opportunities it provided our students that can be showcased at the school or the State Historic Preservation Office website. The District will also work with our teachers in the architecture, media, and other areas to determine how we can best include students in this work, such as by including a student project about the roles schools play in the community and the architectural significance of school buildings.

The components of this project will include photographs of the building, including unique architectural elements; video of various parts of the buildings, including some of the final events happening for students in the space this week; and a written history of the facility that includes its initial construction and how it has been used to support our students.

This letter serves as confirmation that the District will undertake the plan we have discussed and documented in this letter. It also confirms that the first phase of this work began this week with professional photographs of the buildings, taken by Larry Kmiecik, an experienced architect and photographer. These photographs are available [here](#).

We look forward to consulting with you as we move forward with this work over the coming months. As we discussed on December 13th, we would appreciate you releasing the appropriate permits on Friday, December 17th so that the project can proceed on schedule.

Regards,

Paul Sally, Ed.D
Superintendent