

October 26, 2003

Mr. Blaine Carlson
Waukesha Express Swim Team, Head Coach
W237 S4372 Big Bend Road
Waukesha, WI 53189

Dear Blaine,

Please accept this correspondence as an expression of appreciation for the proposal brought forward by the Waukesha Express Swim Team in conjunction with the School District of Waukesha. In my ten years as an educator I have never come across such a collaborative and visionary proposal to help kids in their pursuit of life long fitness.

As Principal of Waukesha South High School I have the wonderful opportunity to work with a variety of organizations from the school, community and beyond. A competitive swimming facility of this magnitude will service virtually all of these groups in some form, and is sorely needed in southeastern Wisconsin. As I talk to other Principals in the area, I find many that are struggling with new pool safety regulations on entry depth. At the same time, they lack the community and private support to solve the problem. Budgets are tight, and major capital expenditures are appropriately taking a back seat to core instructional needs. We are truly in a unique situation. With the Waukesha community having passed the referendum funding the replacement pool, and the commitment of organizations like Express, I am hopeful that we can take advantage of the opportunity before us and build a competitive pool that will be a resource for the state.

I understand, through our discussions, that Wisconsin Swimming, Inc. could be interested in using a new facility such as the one we are planning as a site to host large meets periodically throughout the year. Let me stress that as Principal of South High School, I strongly support the use of the pool by groups like Wisconsin Swimming, Inc. and would work closely with them to meet their needs. In recent weeks we have had over five thousand people use our school facility outside of the normal school day. Events range from swim meets to marching band to volleyball and basketball leagues to after school tutoring for second language needs. Our school literally is the heartbeat of our community, and it is a goal of ours to have our facility as accessible to the community as possible.

Blaine, if there is anything I can do in support of your efforts, please let me know. This project is vital to our community and will do whatever I can to make this dream a reality.

Sincerely,

Mark