

**EDGEWOOD
CAMPUS SCHOOL**

829 Edgewood College Dr.
Madison, WI 53711

**EDGEWOOD
HIGH SCHOOL**

2219 Monroe St.
Madison, WI 53711

**EDGEWOOD
COLLEGE**

1000 Edgewood College Dr.
Madison, WI 53711

November 5, 2019

see pg 2

TO: Members of the City of Madison
Common Council and The Plan Commission

FROM: The Presidents of Edgewood College,
Edgewood High School of The Sacred Heart, and
Edgewood Campus Grade School

RE: Joint Position Statement Supporting Repeal of the Edgewood Master Plan

For many years the City Council, the Plan Commission, and Madison Citizenry have generally viewed Edgewood simply as one entity existing on one piece of land on Madison's near west side.

In fact, Edgewood now consists of three different and distinct schools existing on three different legal parcels of land. Our schools have three separate and distinct Boards of Trustees, three separate and distinct sets of governing bylaws, and three separate and distinct Mission Statements.

"Edgewood" is: Edgewood College, Edgewood High School of The Sacred Heart, and Edgewood Campus Grade School.

Wisconsin Governor, Cadwallader Washburn, purchased the land (55 acres) in 1873 upon which the three institutions exist today. Within a few years, he donated this land, including his home that existed on the site, to the Dominican Sisters for educational purposes.

In 1881, St. Regina Academy, a private boarding school for girls was opened. The Campus was subsequently expanded to include a high school and an elementary school. In 1927, a request was made for academic recognition of a junior college for women from the President of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which was granted.

During the period from 1927 to 1940, the development of Edgewood College was closely connected to the high school, as the institutions shared facilities, services, and faculties.

Thirteen years after the approval of Edgewood College as a Junior College, it became a four-year college. By 1954, the College was beginning to grow steadily by expanding and adding new buildings.

Edgewood Campus Grade School was built at this time. But the grade school has been located on the campus since 1881. The youngest students were shuffled and moved to available spaces around the campus until the campus school building opened in 1954.

Also, in 1954, the college faculty was officially separated from the high school faculty.

In 2011, the 55-acre property was separated into three separate legal parcels approved by the City, which accommodated the three separate schools.

We present this brief history to demonstrate that with a vision and a defined mission, institutions grow and change.

Today there are 295 students enrolled at Edgewood Campus Grade School with 31 employees including 24 faculty.

Edgewood High School of the Sacred Heart has 481 students enrolled, with 94 employees including 54 faculty.

There are 2,038 students attending Edgewood College with 525 employees including 258 faculty.

Our alumni, faculty and employees have been active and complimentary contributors to the Madison community for many years. Currently over 11,000 graduates of the Edgewood schools call the Madison area "home".

The master plan which governs the three parcels of land and our respective institutions is no longer effective or workable. The goals and objectives of the three separate and distinct schools can sometimes be in conflict, which has proven to be a hindrance when changes are desired or needed.

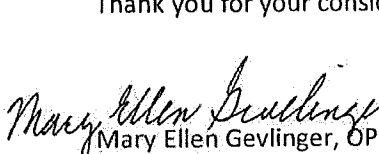
After reviewing our options, and with an invitation from the City Attorney's Office, we determined repealing the master plan was the most equitable solution, at this time and in the future, for our campuses.


We have consistently respected the City's due process throughout our journey towards equality, and we will continue to do so in the future. Once our Master Plan is repealed, we understand a new conditional use permitting process was approved by the City and will apply to institutions such as Edgewood that do not have a Master Plan on file.


As we pursue the repeal of the voluntary master plan, we feel it is fair and equitable to ask that our students and institutions be treated the same as all other institutions zoned campus institutional.

With the unanimous support of our Boards of Trustees, we respectfully ask both the Planning Commission and the Common Council to honor our request to have the Master Plan repealed.

Thank you for your consideration.


Mary Ellen Gevlinger, OP
President
Edgewood College


Michael Elliott
President
Edgewood High School


Anne Palzkill
President
Edgewood Campus School