AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
SS:
COUNTY OF DANE)

I, LORI C. HUNTOON, do state and aver to the following:

1. The attached letter is a true and accurate description of the hardships my family and I have faced since the announced closing of Conserve School's four year college preparatory school.

2. The closing of the school at the end of this school year creates an immediate and irreparable harm on my family and child.

Signature

Subscribed and sworn to before me and in my presence this 24 day of February, 2009.

Notary Public

2/24/09

EXP 07/29/12

The following is a summary of the impact that the Conserve School situation has had on Samantha and Lori Huntoon. I have attached an affidavit regarding these statements:

Our family has been devastated and directly impacted by the announcement that the Conserve School is closing as a four-year boarding school at the end of this semester.

Samantha is currently a sophomore, and she has not been accepted to another school at this time; she was interested in one school that had a program of her interest, but they do not have any openings for Juniors (Thacher School in California); this information was confirmed by Carol Hotchkiss in personal discussions with school administrators. The same is true of several other schools she has looked in to. She was also interested in attending Putney, and they have expressed a strong interest in her attending, but I have been told that they have no financial aid available for students after the cutoff deadline. At this point, the public schools in Madison and DeForest, Wisconsin, are her only options, and they do not have an emphasis on conservation and the outdoors, and the college preparatory education (especially with regard to her future plans) is substandard. In addition, Samantha has been studying Chinese for seven years; this interest in continuing her education in Mandarin was a huge deciding factor in her choice of Conserve School. The schools available to us in Madison (West High) and DeForest do not offer a Chinese program.

I am especially concerned with the health issues that this situation has caused. Samantha has been having an extremely different time since the school has informed us of the changes. She has been suffering from severe nightmares, which she had never had before. She also is suffering from a much different kind of sleep deprivation (when she does sleep, she wakes up multiple times per hour), and emotional breakdowns (she has spent a few days in the health center from being distraught to the point where she became sick). Her grades which should be up from last semester are suffering as she cannot focus and is already mourning the loss of her community for next year.

I have also had an extremely difficult time with the unexpected news of the school's closing. A significant issue that this has created is the choices for schools available to Samantha; although she would be interested in returning to the public school where she attended her freshman year (and was involved in the preveterinary and FFA programs), this is no longer an option as we have moved to the opposite side of Madison. Never would I have changed our location as drastically as this, if I had any doubt that Conserve School would be available to her for the remainder of her high school years.

I have made one trip up north to spend time with my daughter face-to-face to discuss future options, and have had to take time from work preparation to focus on possible options for schooling for her for next year. In addition to strained relationships, I have been losing sleep and have suffered from other stress-related complications. I have lost pay due ~~to the need~~ to take time off to visit potential schools, and have jeopardized potential jobs for myself with the strain this has caused.

Sincerely,
Lori Huntoon

24 February 2009