

**From:** Amy Poehling <[poehlinga@wilmette39.org](mailto:poehlinga@wilmette39.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Ms. Martin - 2nd Grade Teacher At Romona  
**Date:** April 29, 2021 at 6:09:56 PM CDT  
**To:** Rebecca Berlin Melzer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** "Kari Cremascoli, Ph.D." <[cremasck@wilmette39.org](mailto:cremasck@wilmette39.org)>

Rebecca,

Thank you for taking the time to write such an uplifting letter. It made my day to read about your experience at Ramona this year and we so appreciate you sharing with us! It is truly our teachers, like Ms. Martin and Mr. Toy, who make District 39 shine.

My best,

Amy Poehling

On Apr 29, 2021, at 5:32 PM, Rebecca Berlin Melzer <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dr. Cremascoli and Members of the Board of Education

As Superintendent of District 39 and Members of the Board of Education responsible for overseeing the programs and educational standards in Wilmette, I want to email you about Ms. Martin, a 2nd grade teacher at Romona. My family moved to Wilmette in August and, having grown up and attended Romona, I was truly so excited to send my then 7 year old son [REDACTED] there this fall.

My expectations have far exceeded what I could have imagined this year. We have been impressed with the efforts to manage COVID the school has taken, the communication from the school, and the activities in which the children engage. Mr. Toy (the PE teacher) has been a bright light in my son [REDACTED] day and even my 4 year old - allowing my 4 year old to participate in gym when remote.

Not to minimize other teacher's stellar rolls, but Ms. Martin has been the true star this year, a shining light. She is a truly spectacular teacher, educator, child-advocate and parent-informer. It is truly hard to put into words how much we have seen our son excel during a difficult year and how much we attribute that the the ways in which Ms. Martin manages her classroom.

If there is any way for you to recognize Ms. Martin, we would be beyond supportive of it.

Thank you,

Rebecca Berlin Melzer

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Rebecca Berlin Melzer  
[REDACTED]

Dear Board of Education,

We have something very safe that

will keep little kids happy.

Parents will have fun pushing

every one guesses what it is?!

3 2 1 time is up IT'S A SWING

!!! Just to remind you

with a harness so don't get

too excited to cause our classmates

what happens when they can't

play with us at recess. A swing

with a harness is about 600

\$. Children can swing in the

sky like an eagle, we want  
it in the main playground  
it will lead to smiles and  
laughter to keep children happy

can you please do it were pleading  
to play with our classmate!  
Now get the swing with a harness!  
are you ready?! Please can  
you get it it safe everyone  
wants safe right? If you  
do buy it. Sincerely,

In Mrs. Mooney's

2nd grade class

Dear Board of Education,  
Education

We have something very  
safe and keep little kids  
happy. Parents will have

fun pushing everyone guess  
what it is! 3 2 1

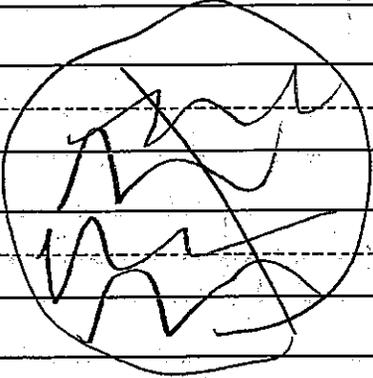
Time is up IT'S A  
SWING! Oh

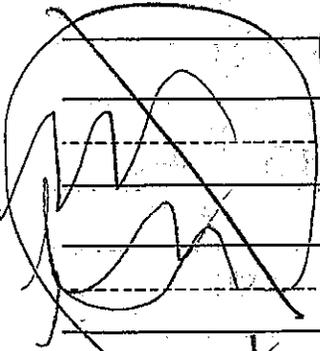
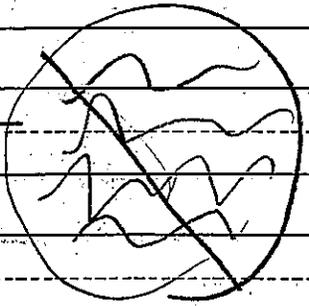
just to remind you

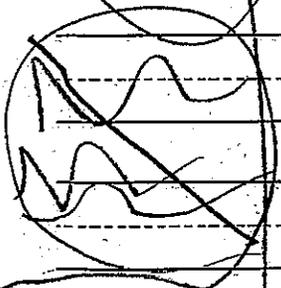
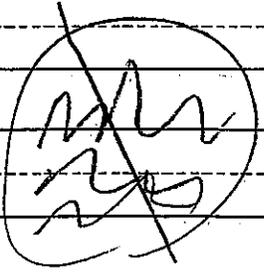
with a harness so

about a metal

WANT GET TWO EXTRA ON  
out classmate who has  
a wheel that it can't!

NO → 

 right → 

 here 

Kevin Dahm

██████████  
Wilmette, IL 60091

Dear Wilmette School Board,

I believe all or many of the families with students in D39 received emails from their teachers regarding "office hours" and that the teachers will only reply between the hours of 8:15-3:45pm.

My understanding is that this email was sent as a strategic tactic during the teachers' CBA negotiations. While negotiating a CBA is a stressful and painstaking process on both sides, this type of behavior is unprofessional and childish. While many of the folks in the community that pay the teachers' salaries have taken pay cuts, worked longer hours and even lost their jobs, the teachers have received full pay and benefits. I am not advocating that we should have decreased teachers' pay. I am pointing out how disrespectful the teachers' email is.

In addition, D39's test scores continue to decrease.

At this moment in time, we should be working together to make up for the time our children lost and trying to reverse D39's declining test score trend. We support any actions the school board takes to achieve these goals.

Best,

Kevin Dahm