



Heartland Lakes Community School

April 4, 2023

Dear Sen. Mary Kunesch and Rep. Alicia Koziowski, Member of the Legislature,

My name is Joanna Wallenberg and I am the Board Chair of Heartland Lakes Community School (HLCS), a new Charter School for K-8 scholars in the Park Rapids area. I am writing today on behalf of our School Board in support of the \$650,000 in legislative funding for Akiing and the Giiwedining Treaty Rights & Culture Museum in Park Rapids, MN.

Having this space devoted to cultural restoration, education about Indigenous communities in both the past and present, and continued growth of Indigenous knowledge would be a great benefit to our whole community.

As a school community, HLCS looks forward to being able to learn from the Giiwedining Treaty Rights & Culture Museum. We are eager for our scholars to learn about the history of the lands where we live, the strength and traditions of the Anishinaabe People, and how to be wise stewards of the land and water.

A financial investment in the Giiwedining Treaty Rights & Culture Museum in Park Rapids, MN would be an investment in our whole community.

Sincerely,

Joanna Wallenberg, Board Chair

Nikki Gack, Board Secretary

Sarah Skjonsby, Board Treasurer

Elise Erickson, Board Member

Jamie Simon-Linkowitz, Board Member

Kami Johnson, Board Member

Jovan Rebolgar, Board Member