



November 21, 2017

Sycamore Township Board of Zoning Appeals
8540 Kenwood Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236



8401 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

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Dear Sycamore Township Board of Zoning Appeals,

Yavneh Day School Inc., dba Rockwern Academy located at 8401 Montgomery Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45236 is applying for a variance for fencing of our existing fenced-in front playground. Per Section 10-7.1 of the Sycamore Township Zoning Resolution, no fence may be installed in the defined front yard. We are also asking to make both the fence on our preschool playground and front playground 8 ft. tall by including a 2ft. section of lattice on top of the 6ft. base fencing. Per Section 10-7.2 no fence shall be built to a height greater than 6 ft. above grade. Our parcels are approximately .75 acres and are located on the corner of Montgomery Road and Sturbridge Drive.

Rockwern Academy has received a grant from the State of Ohio Emergency Management Agency to install 8 ft. PVC privacy fencing around each of our playgrounds to increase the security on our campus. The grant was awarded to us in 2017 and the fencing must be built and in place by March 2018. Based on our current security protocol, before a potential attacker is able to be evaluated by access control and security measures (eg. visual inspection and a remotely-controlled front door lock), they would likely have the ability to target two external playground facilities located on opposite sides of the building. Our goal is to reduce the threat of violence or acts of terrorism by obstructing the view of our playgrounds and hardening their perimeters. The fence will also mitigate the loss of life and property by protecting the playground areas from vehicle penetration. The increased difficulty of visibility to the playground area with privacy fencing will decrease the expected payoff (loss of life or facilities) from such an attack. The fencing will not only increase security on our campus, but it will also improve the aesthetics of our campus. The maintenance free pvc fencing will remain beautiful for many years to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Wethington

Business & Operations Manager