March 4, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to take this opportunity to submit a letter of support for the addition of a Pharmacy in the Elgin Health Clinic. My name is Dianne Greif; I am the Superintendent of the Elgin School District. We employee 52 adults in the community and serve 420 kids Kindergarten through 12th grade. We also provide a tuition based preschool in our District, serving 38 three and four year olds. Our community houses a Headstart campus, serving an additional 19 students aged four and five.

As an Administrator in the District, I see the impact having a health clinic in the community has had. We have had a smaller edition, with limited hours, in the past. Since the new clinic has been here our students health issues are much easier to address. We are able to coordinate rides with families, keeping parents from missing work. Students are able to access physical therapy, dental, social/emotional health and medical appointments all within the school day. This has helped reduce the attendance rate in our District significantly.

The addition of a pharmacy in the clinic would simplify this process even more for our students, families and staff. We are so fortunate to have the necessary medical care here in town, but for some of us, waiting to get prescriptions has become quite an issue. As a working adult I can get away for an appointment, but often end up waiting as long as two days to get my prescription, due to the demands of work. The parents of our students, who work, face the issue of getting to the pharmacy following work, getting home to sick children and missing as little work as possible. A pharmacy in the clinic would allow our kids and families much quicker access to the medications that could possibly get them back to school quicker.

In addition to the working parents, are the many parents who do not have transportation? We have solved one of those problems by getting adequate medical health access in our community; if we could now close that gap and provide the opportunity for prescription access, we will be filling a need. We are working closely with our parents to reduce absenteeism. The addition of a pharmacy will support that work.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dianne Greif, Superintendent