

DITOR

A Place of 'Hopes And Dreams'

For 5 years, I have attended the YMCA, and it gives me great sorrow to think it will not exist if it's not moved to Mahackeno.

From swim lessons at in the Brophy pool, to swim team in the Stauffer pool, I have always thought how lucky I was to swim, and compete, and even more importantly, make friends. I have learned how to use my strengths and defeat my weaknesses. It has been a lifelong lesson, especially being on the swim team. I have actual friends there, they are my boost from the long school day and they actually care about me. I have wonderful coaches, even the ones who have left. When things get rough at school, and sometimes at swim practice, I learned determination from the Y and so have many others in the Fairfield area that attend our successful YMCA. More determination, teamwork and courage is demanding in Westport and surrounding areas, and it can all be found at the Westport Weston YMCA.

The YMCA at Mahackeno is the new future for Westport. If you ever visit the Y at its current location, you can see it can never suit the

needs of the facility. For example, the pool has needed to be fixed multiple times, you can hear dancing from the first floor, and it is not a suitable environment for little kids in daycare. At Mahackeno, it will be equipped with new equipment, a new pool, better dance studios and much more.

Mahackeno will also be cleaned up and restored for a better camp.

Without the approval of the Y, all the programs will be lost and people will lose their jobs. Everyone loves the YMCA and it is important for the town that it is moved to Mahackeno.

So, if those people who don't support the YMCAs move to Mahackeno want to take away our beloved YMCA, they will be taking away many hopes and dreams children and adults wished to fulfill at the Westport Weston YMCA.

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