



## **EAST MAINE SCHOOL DISTRICT 63**

November 9, 2023

Mr. John Kniery  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Kniery:

East Maine School District 63 has worked with Advocate Lutheran General for many years on a range of projects. Among other things, the hospital has provided its Ronald McDonald Care Mobile for use at our schools – and community outreach staff have offered free workshops at our Family Resource Center on health-related topics. Advocate has been a strong community partner.

I'm writing now to support the hospital's Center for Advanced Care modernization project. Our understanding is that this project would consolidate a range of services for patients who have cancer and other serious illnesses in one place -- making it much easier for them to access care.

We serve more than 2,000 families in the vicinity of Advocate Lutheran General and many of our students and their families use the hospital's services. While it is difficult to say how many might use the Center for Advanced Care, we do believe that integrating treatment options and enabling local residents who have serious health challenges to stay close to home can only benefit our families – and the entire community.

I encourage the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve Advocate's project, which will result in better health care in the area we serve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shawn Schleizer  
Superintendent

Dr. Shawn Schleizer, Superintendent

*Empowering all students to succeed in a changing world.*

10150 Dee Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016 847.299.1900 [www.emsd63.org](http://www.emsd63.org)