

August 29, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I am the President of the Washington Jesuit Academy, an independent middle school here in Washington, DC, that provides a high-quality education to boys from low-income communities.

Distinguished Members of the Committee, I am not writing about politics, religion, or one's jurisprudence. I am writing to provide *personal* insight on Brett Kavanaugh's moral character, based simply on what I have observed while he served as a volunteer tutor at WJA and more recently as a member of our Board of Directors. And while most know him as Judge Kavanaugh, I've only ever known him as Brett Kavanaugh.

At WJA, we provide our students a safe haven with a rigorous academic setting, where for 11 hours a day, 11 months a year they learn and grow — spiritually, emotionally and intellectually. WJA really is a second home to our students. Working together, we build a foundation that will help these young men thrive in high school, in college and in life.

WJA is a school unlike most others. We are tuition free and rely on a team of dedicated teachers and a community of caring volunteers to help make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of Washington, DC's most deserving young men.

As mentioned, one of those volunteers is Brett Kavanaugh.

In that our school is in the shadow of the US Capitol, over the years we have been fortunate to have many Washington professionals and Hill staff - from both sides of the political aisle - volunteer at WJA. These men and women come through the doors of our school with different talents to share, but all with the same goal of making a profound difference in our students' lives.

I have been inspired and energized by the work of so many of our volunteers. Brett - and hundreds of others - volunteer their time and talent to empower these young men to take on the challenges that lie ahead.

For more than two years, Brett was a regular presence at our school, serving as a tutor to many of our middle schoolers. He would come to WJA week after week in the late afternoon and meet with a small group of students. Brett would help with homework, work on improving study skills, and help students become stronger readers.

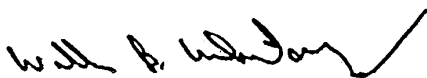
As you may know, Brett taught at Harvard, Yale and Georgetown. As a tutor, Brett worked to foster and inspire a love for learning, so that the students could grow in confidence and ability. He helped unlock the intellectual curiosity in these young men, allowing them to build a spirit of self-worth.

Our boys come from under-served communities and often are left behind. They have life stories that have forced them to grow up fast. Often if Brett's study group finished their homework early, conversations about simple life lessons would evolve. Brett offered guidance, and encouragement to bolster the student's sense of self-worth and self-confidence. Brett was a positive role model and mentor.

Before I became President of WJA I was a basketball coach at Gonzaga High School. As a coach, I always looked up to John Wooden, the legendary basketball coach at UCLA. Coach Wooden once said: "The true test of **a man's character** is what he does when no one is watching."

Without fanfare, without attention, without anyone watching, Brett Kavanaugh has volunteered at WJA to make a lasting difference in our students' lives. His actions have helped build confidence in our students, putting them on the path to success. His good works have helped shape the character of our students, and serve as a testament to his own strength of character.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William B. Whitaker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent flourish at the end.

William B. Whitaker
Founding President
Washington Jesuit Academy