



Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization
799 W. Kensington Rd., Mount Prospect, IL 60056
t: 847-463-8100 | f: 847-463-8114

October 13, 2020

Village of Arlington Heights
Attn: Design Commission
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd.
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Dear Design Commission,

The Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization (NSSEO) is respectfully requesting a variance regarding proposed playground signage at Miner School. NSSEO is an Illinois public school special education cooperative and school district that serves students with the most significant and complex disabilities who reside within its eight member school districts (Districts 21, 23, 25, 26, 57, 59, 211, and 214). Miner School is an NSSEO therapeutic day school that serves students with a range of complex needs from Early Childhood through Grade 8. Many students at Miner have limited motor abilities, including many students requiring the use of wheelchairs and other physical accommodations.

NSSEO recently completed construction on the Miner School Playground for Everyone – an inclusive accessible playground. The previous playground at Miner School was not wheelchair accessible, thus limiting inclusive play opportunities for students and community peers. The new playground has many accessible pieces of equipment and includes equipment not typically found in other accessible playgrounds. Interactive play stations with adaptive switch capability provide individuals with limited upper body or fine motor skills the opportunity to independently activate auditory features. These specially designed pieces of playground equipment address the needs for students with more complex disabilities and allow for children with a range of needs to actively engage in imaginative, cooperative play. The new playground has a poured in place rubber surface that allows children to interact and play together on a safe surface, further advancing independence for children with physical disabilities. In addition, the inclusive design enables children, parents, and grandparents who have disabilities or mobility impairments to participate in intergenerational play.

NSSEO is extremely grateful to have received a \$410,497 grant from the state of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to fund the majority of the playground. During the planning phase for the project, it was determined that the Arlington Heights community would greatly benefit from such an inclusive accessible playground in addition to the student population at Miner School. The Arlington Heights Park District partnered with NSSEO to ensure that the entire play surface was poured in place. The Miner School PTO is also a local Arlington Heights partner in the project. The Rotary Club of Arlington Heights supported NSSEO with one of their community grants to help fund the project. Signs by Tomorrow, a local Arlington Heights business, is partnering with NSSEO as a sponsor and designing and installing the signage. In addition, Windsor School Girl Scout Troop #41997 raised funds to install a communication board at the playground for those with special needs. It is truly

heartwarming to see the level of community and elementary-level peer support for the playground.

In light of the numerous supporters and donors, the proposed playground signage celebrates this sense of community and honors those who made the Miner School Playground for Everyone a reality. The proposed playground entrance sign is 12 foot tall and spans the sidewalk serving as an entryway to the playground and visual locator for the Arlington Heights community. As the playground is set back from the road, we wanted to ensure that the community would be able to locate the playground to ensure that Arlington Heights residents benefit from all of the inclusive playground features. Along the bottom of the sign are logos of the businesses that supported the project. These logos honor our state and local business partners. The proposed playground welcome sign highlights the NSSEO Governing Board and the NSSEO Foundation Board. The proposed donor recognition sign thanks all of our generous state, local business and community donors. The Miner School Playground for Everyone project was truly a community effort and NSSEO wants to show our gratitude to everyone involved. Lastly, there is a reading corner in the playground that was funded by the generous support of the friends and family of Matthew Ruffalo, a Miner Student who passed away. There is a proposed playground sign honoring Matthew and his love of reading.

The proposed playground signage would not create a traffic hazard, as the signage is set back from the street and the only sign really visible is the playground entrance sign. There is another monument sign at the property for A Mother's Touch, but the placement of the signage would not compete with this sign. The new playground and proposed signage will help to increase the property values of neighboring residents and businesses as they are tasteful in design and an improvement of the previous 30 year old playground and entrance sign. The old Rotary Club of Arlington Heights playground entrance sign was removed. The Rotary Club of Arlington Heights is once again a sponsor of the playground and will be recognized on the new signage.

We are hopeful that the Design Commission will grant NSSEO the variances required for the proposed playground signage, as the project benefits the local community and recognizes the many contributors that brought this inclusive accessible playground to fruition. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Julie Jilek
Assistant Superintendent, Chief School Business Official



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SIGNAGE PROOF

Client / Project Name:

Rev 4 8/30/20 dp
NSSEO Miner School

Estimate / Order Number:

n/a

Specifications:

Date Sent To Client:

9/2/20 dp

Current Revision:

Rev 8 10/20/20 dp

▼ CLIENT TO FILL OUT ▼

Approved:

Signature / Date

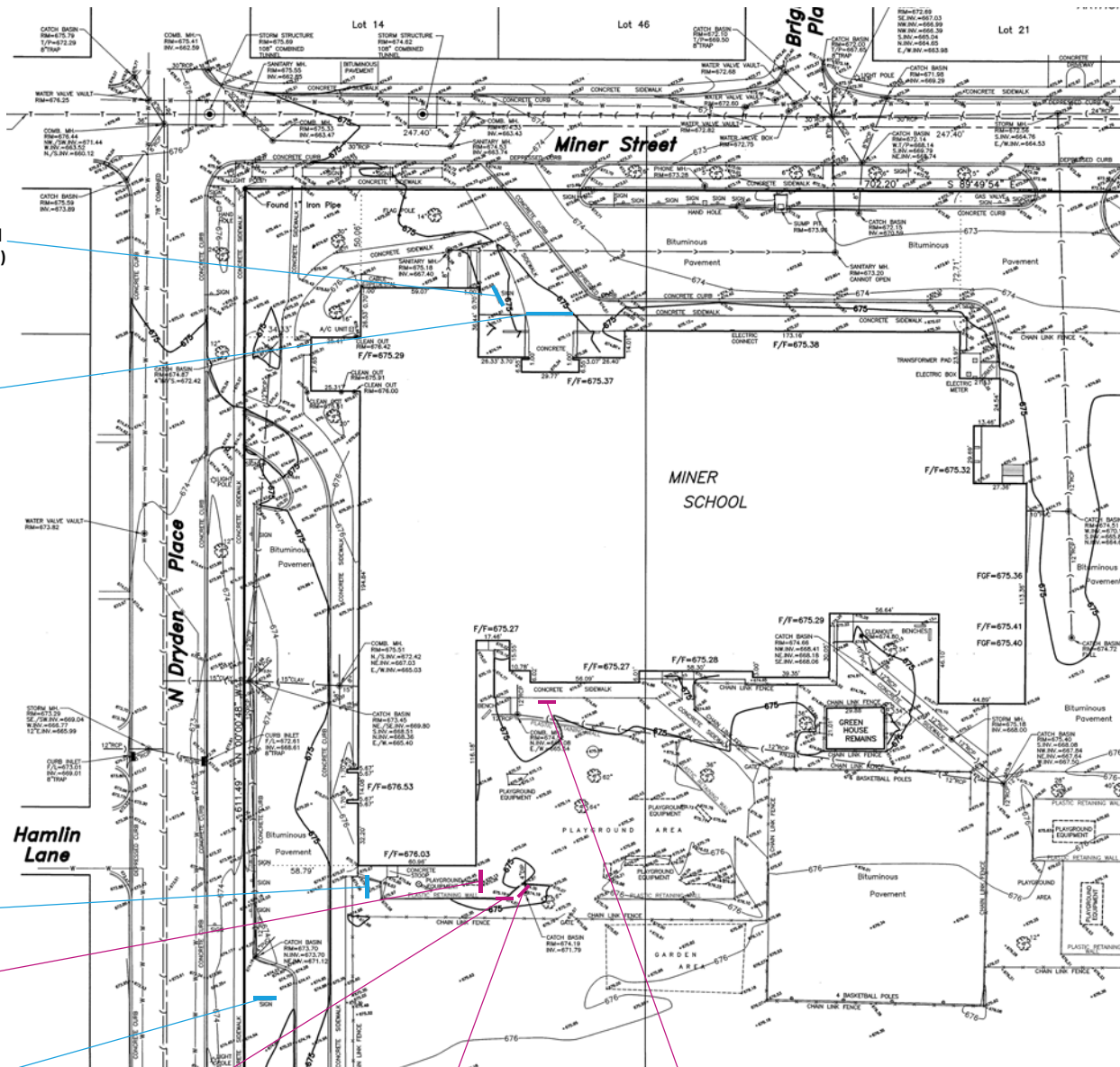
Approved As Noted:

Signature / Date

Requesting Revision



1315 E. Davis St., Arlington Heights, IL 60005
847.255.0123 tel • 847.255.0183 fax
arlingtonheights@signsbytomorrow.com
www.sbtarlingtonheights.com



Miner School
(existing sign)

Miner School
(existing 3d letters)

Rotary Sign
(removed)

Sign Type 1

A Mother's Touch
(existing sign)

Sign Type 2

Sign Type 3

Sign Type 4

FOR INSTALLS
PLEASE FILL IN
INFORMATION

Site Address: 1101 E Miner St, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Site Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____



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Existing Local Signage



SIGNAGE PROOF

Client / Project Name:

NSSEO Miner School

Estimate / Order Number:

n/a

Specifications:

Date Sent To Client:

9/2/20 dp

Current Revision:

Rev8 10/20/20 dp

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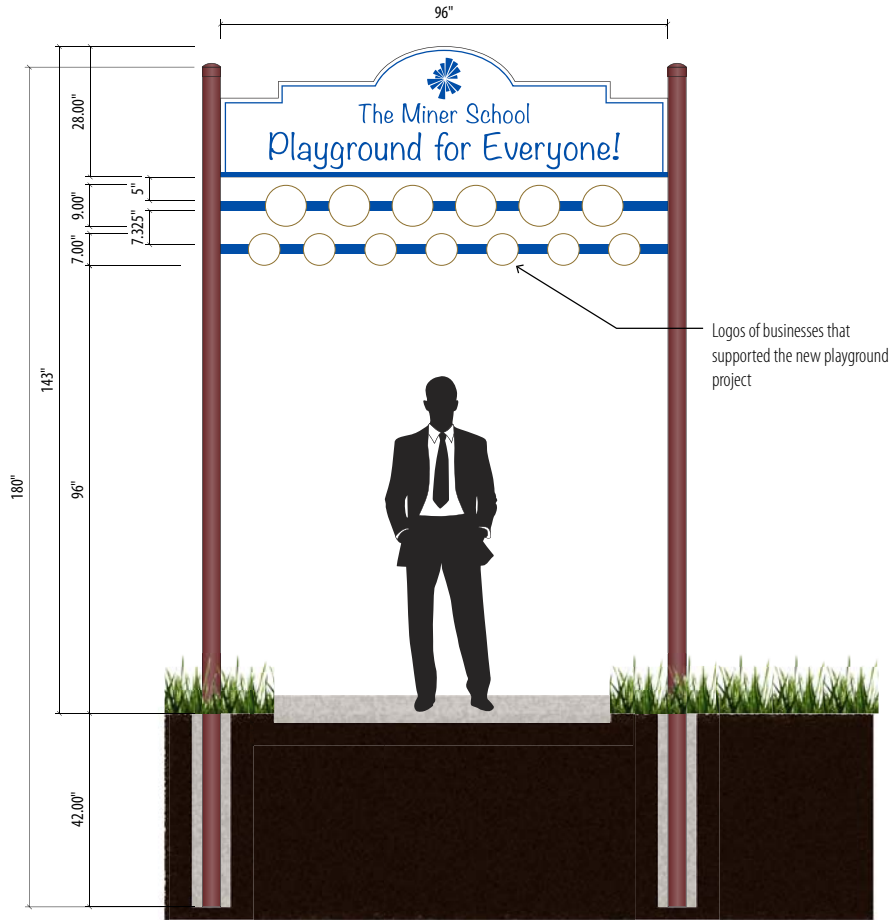
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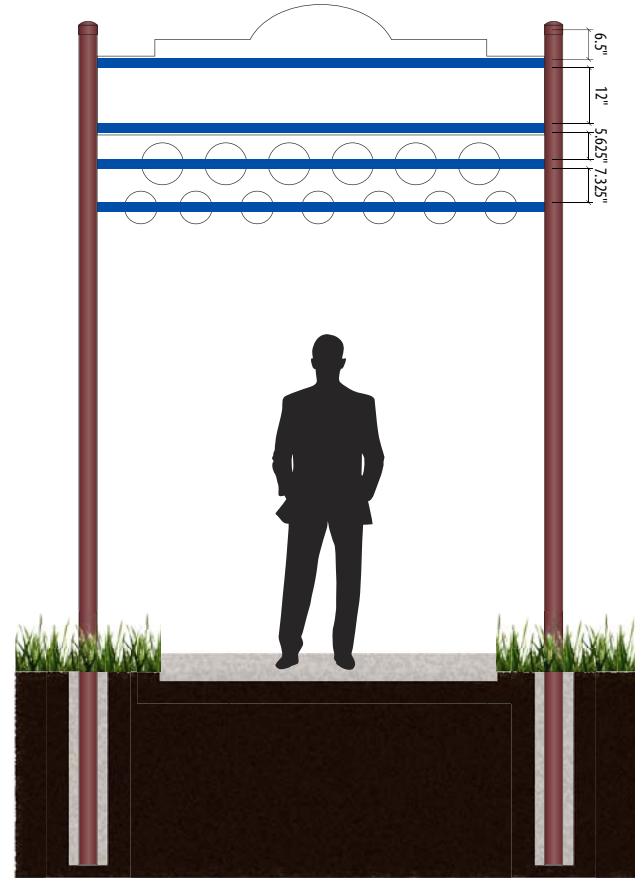
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Sign Type 1



Logos of businesses that supported the new playground project

Front



Back

SIGNAGE PROOF

Client / Project Name:

NSSEO Miner School

Estimate / Order Number:

n/a

Specifications:

Exterior Post and Panel Sign System
 Posts: 1815c Burgundy, 4" Round Smooth, Powder Coat
 Includes Anti-spin Drilling And Hardware
 Cross Bars: 2145c Blue
 Panels: POLYCARVE HDPE Material w/ routed, recessed graphics, Blue on White
 Installation: Direct burial, 42" below grade, cement.

Date Sent To Client:

9/2/20 dp

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Rev8 10/20/20 dp

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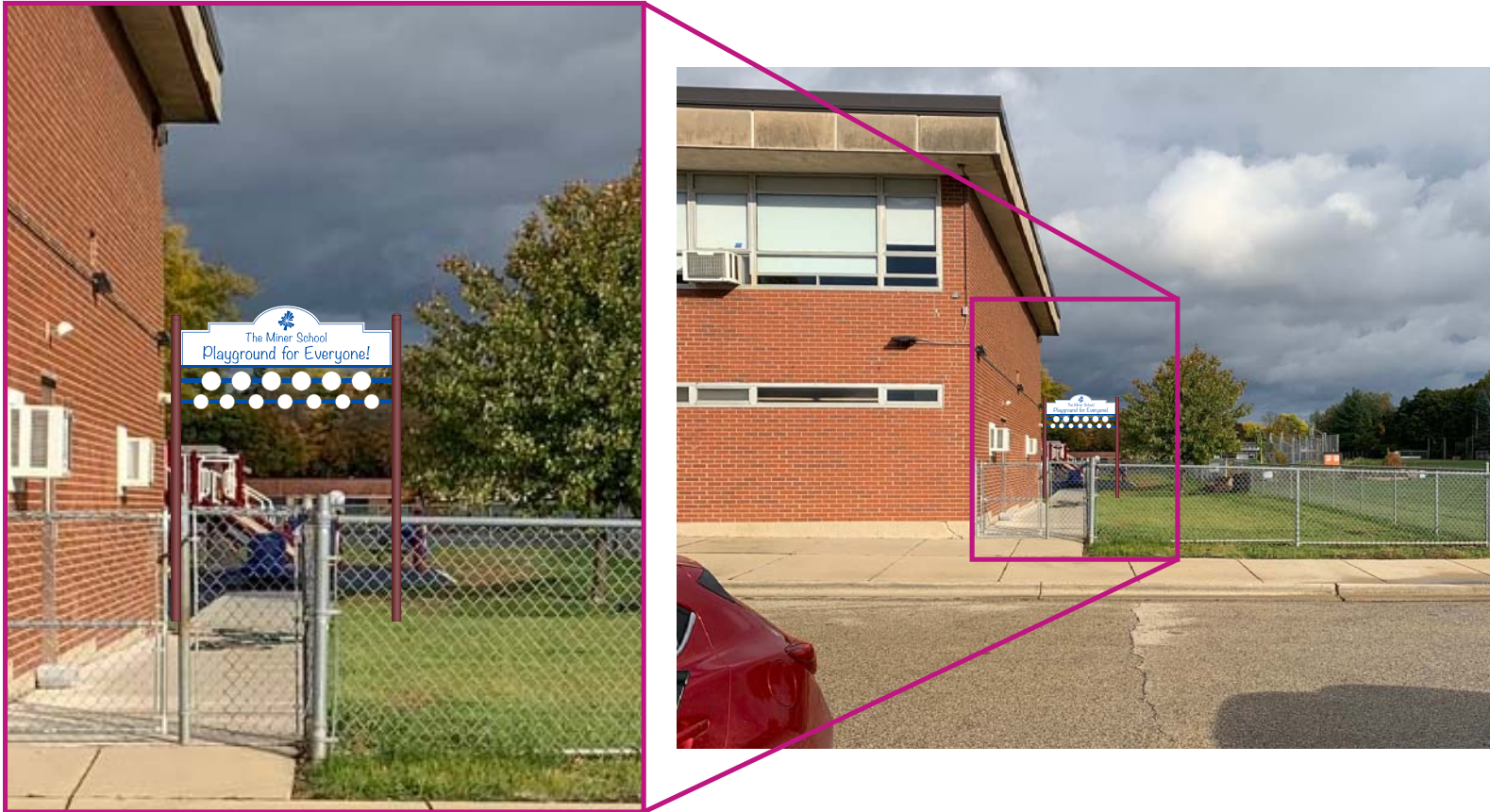
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View From The Street



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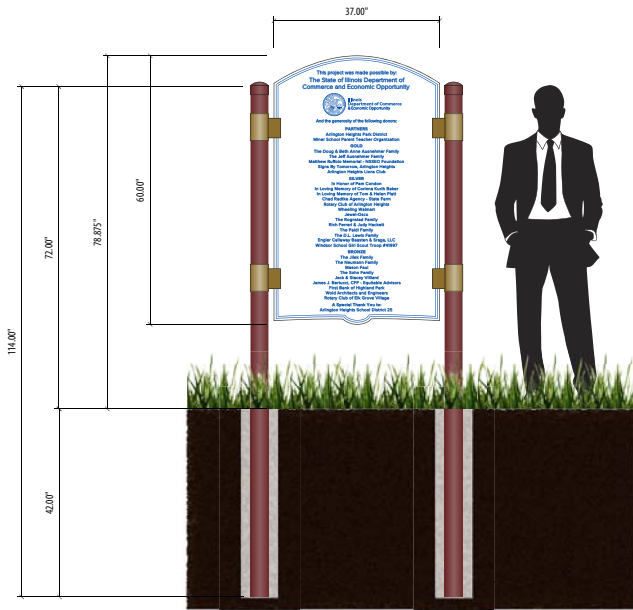
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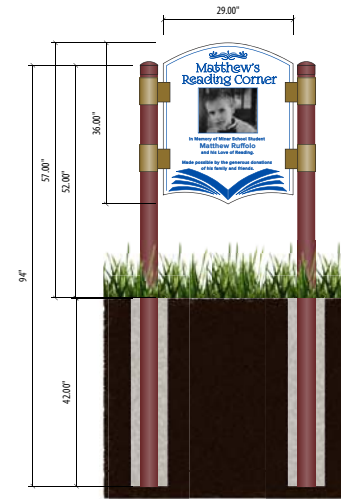
Sign Type 2



Sign Type 3



Sign Type 4



*FOR PRODUCTION REASONS, LETTER STROKE ON TEXT TO NOT BE ANY SMALLER THAN 1/8" IN DIAMETER
 IF STROKE IS SMALLER, IT MAY BE ADJUSTED DURING PRODUCTION WITH FINAL VISUAL VARYING FROM ORIGINAL DESIGN.

SIGNAGE PROOF

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NSSEO Miner School

Estimate / Order Number:

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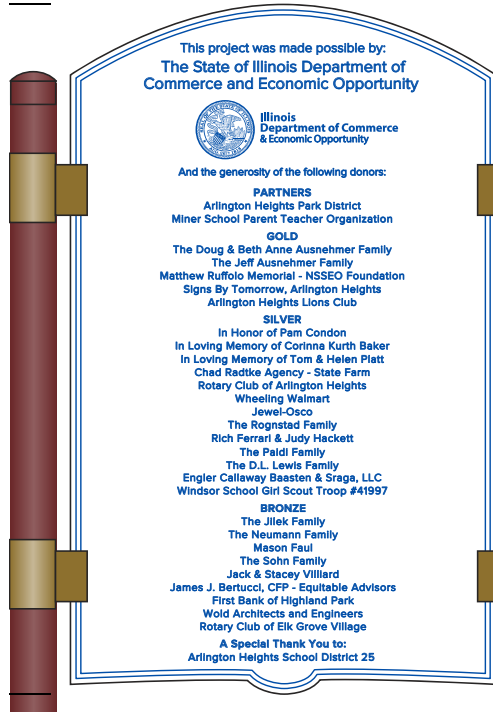
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CLOSEUPS

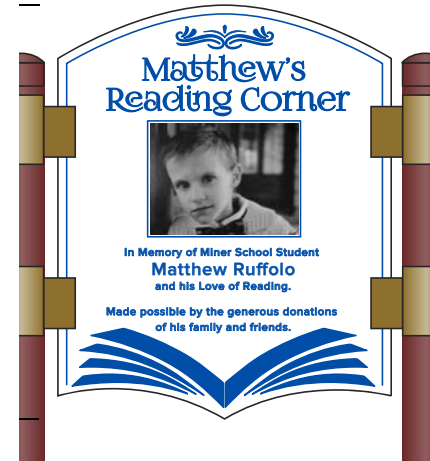
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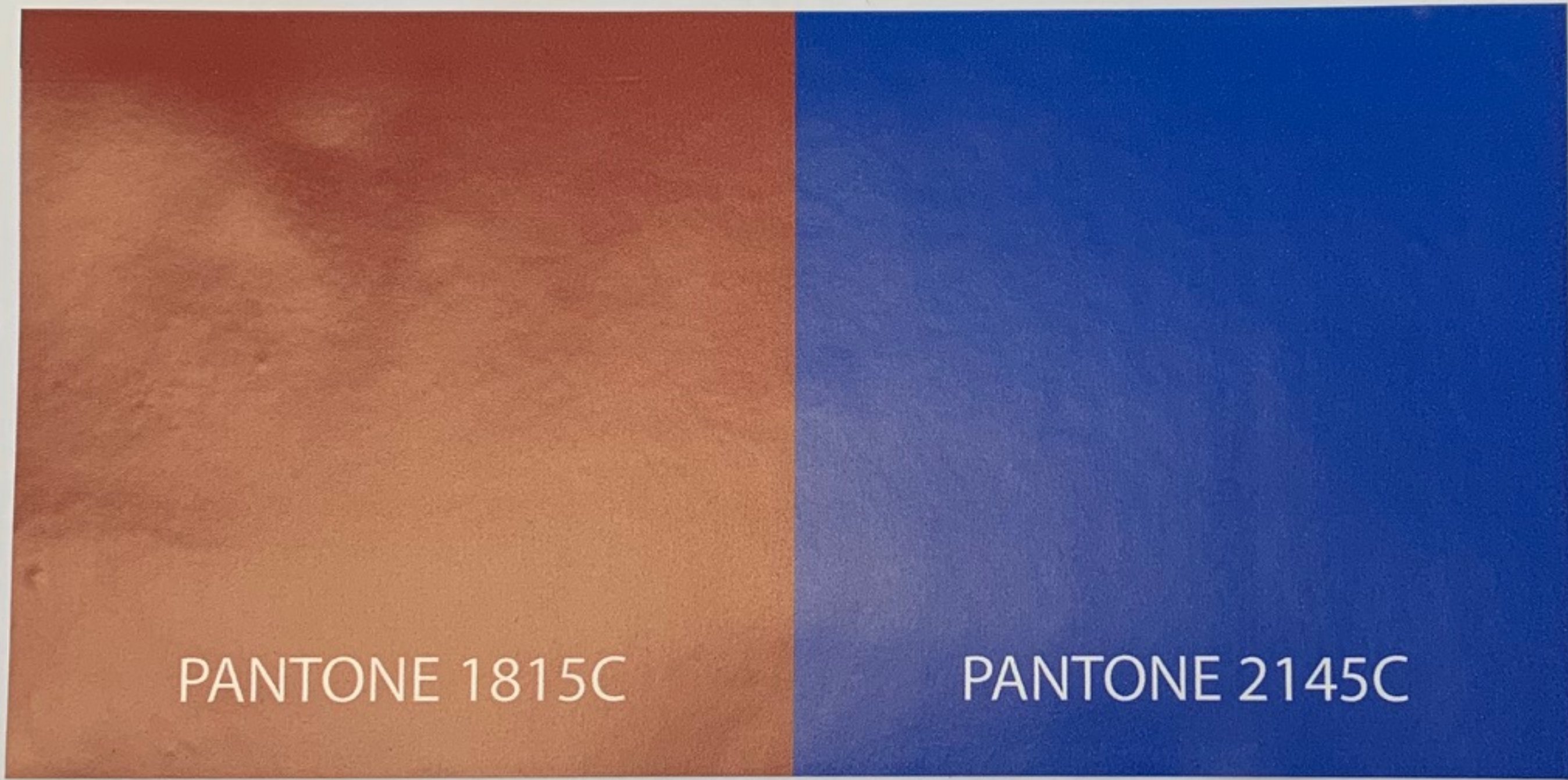
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Installation: Direct burial, 42" below grade, cement.

*Post
color*



*Polycarve
color*



Material List

1. Petitioner Name: Miner School – NSSEO
2. Date: 10/2/2020
3. Project: Signage for Miner School Playground for Everyone
4. Location: 1101 E. Miner St., Arlington Heights, IL 60004

School Playground:

Exterior Post and Panel Sign System

Posts: 1815c Burgundy, 4" Round Smooth, Powder Coat

Includes Anti-spin Drilling And Hardware

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