JUDITH

Judith Axler Turner
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202/483-1616

February 29, 2000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
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Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
Chair
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth St. NW
Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Application #16556

Dear Ms. Reid:

Though I do not live in Shepherd Park, I am a DC resident. I would like to go on record as a supporter of the application by the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital's before the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

I join many in Shepherd Park, as well as Reverend Aldridge and members of Ohev Sholom Talmud Torah and Tifereth Israel synagogues. The Jewish Primary Day School (JPDS) is the only Jewish day school in the District of Columbia, and serves many District families who otherwise would have to take children to the far suburbs. JPDS is evidence of a thriving Jewish population here. Because the school is open to all, it is committed to providing an outstanding education, one that parents will choose whether or not they are Jewish.

JPDS is a true treasure for the District's entire community. Founded in 1987, it has been recognized for the quality of its educational curriculum, faculty talent and students' performance. Most important, half of the JPDS families are District residents.

BZA
Case No. 16556
Exhibit No. 110

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.110

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The JPDS application is for temporary occupancy at 7701 and 7712 Sixteenth Street, NW, as the split facilities are not ideal. JPDS is seeking a permanent, larger home elsewhere in the District. If this application is not approved, JPDS will have to move to the suburbs, abandoning both the District and the families who live here. A temporary move out there will change the nature of the school, and almost guarantee that it will not move back to DC. This temporary three-year occupancy will mean so much not only to the 180 children and their families, but to those of us in DC who believe that another excellent educational facility in the District is in the best interests of the future of our city.

I urge you to approve this application and allow JPDS to remain in the District.

Sincerely,

Judith Turner

Judith Turner

Cc: Councilmember Charlene Drew Jarvis
Councilmembers at Large
Andrew Altman, Office of Planning
Joseph Hairston, Chair ANC 4A