February 28, 2000

Ms. Sheila Reid
Chair
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, NW Suite 210S
Washington, D.C.

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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

RE: Application No. 16556

Dear Ms. Reid:

As long-time residents of Washington, and parents of a child attending the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capitol, we are writing to urge the Board of Zoning Adjustment to approve the school's zoning application for a temporary site. The approval is critical to the continued success of this excellent school.

For eleven years, JPDS-NC has provided families in Washington an opportunity to send their children to a Jewish community day school where they receive a very strong education in both Judaics and secular studies. In fact, JPDS-NC is the *only* such school in the city. More than 60 families who reside in Washington rely on this school for their children's education. And, despite the availability of Jewish day schools in suburban Maryland and Virginia, significant number of families who live outside the city have chosen to send their children to JPDS-NC.

There is no question that JPDS-NC attracts and keeps families in Washington. Without the school, many families who want their children to attend a Jewish day school would move to the suburbs where such schools exist. So JPDS-NC should be viewed as critical to the vitality of the city itself.

As JPDS-NC has indicated, the school and the parent body are fully committed to working with the Shepherd Elementary neighborhood to address it concerns regarding traffic, etc. We appreciate the importance being good neighbors, and providing community service to the areas that accomodate schools.

We hope the BZA will consider and approve this application in an expedited fashion to ensure sufficient time for the school to move and reestablish itself so it's ready for the 2000/2001 school year. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Ellen Nissenbaum Jeffrey Colman

3047 Oliver St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20015

cc: Councilmember Charlene Drew Jarvis
Councilmembers at Large
Andrew Altman, Office of Planning

BZA
Case No. 16556
Exhibit No. 138

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.138