2500 Q St. NW, Apt. 306
Washington, D.C. 20007
February 29, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
Chair
Board of Zoning Adjustments
441 Fourth St. NW, Suite 210 A
Washington, DC 20001

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
'00 MAR -6 P3:00

Re: Application No. 16556

Dear Ms. Reid:

We live in the District of Columbia. We consider ourselves fortunate that the District offers educational options for its residents. We also appreciate the hospitality of the people who live near schools in welcoming children and schools in their neighborhood.

Washington has a diversity of people and, fortunately, a diversity of schools. This includes one--and only one--Jewish elementary school. We believe that it is imperative for the quality of life and expression of diversity in this city that a Jewish Day School be available for those who choose it.

Therefore, we support and urge you to support and approve the application of the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nations' Capital for temporary occupancy at 7701 and 7712 Sixteenth Street, NW. The temporary occupancy is necessary for the survival of the school as it prepares for occupancy of its planned permanent site in the District of Columbia. If the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital does not survive, many students and their parents will move out to Rockville and other suburban locations. We may be among them.

The proposed location is in a neighborhood where the school has always had students residing. Of course, as a minority group, Jews must gather from several neighborhoods to fill a school.

The Jewish Primary Day School is committed to staying in the District of Columbia. We hope that the Board of Zoning Adjustment will recognize that it is in the interest of the city as a whole to support the survival of the school by granting the zoning adjustment requested.

Schools enhance the quality of life in a neighborhood and in a city as a whole. We know that the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital has been sensitive to the needs of prospective neighbors. For example, a respected engineering firm has designed a detailed traffic management plan to keep school traffic off residential streets. Also, the school is planning to invite neighbors to school events and to set up a liaison committee to assure considerate interface with neighbors.

BZA
Case No. 16556
Exhibit No. 148

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16556
EXHIBIT NO.148

Fair is fair. Please approve the application of The Jewish Primary Day School for a zoning adjustment. We also urge you to expedite the decision, so that the school can open on time in September.

Yours truly,

Amy A. Polonsky

Alex S. Polonsky

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