1414 Oak St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20010
February 28, 2000

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF ZONING
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Re: Application No. 16556

Dear Ms. Reid:

I live in Columbia Heights. Every day, I drive my children to another neighborhood to go to the St. Albans School. I consider myself fortunate that the District offers this educational option for those of us who chose an Episcopalian School. I also appreciate the hospitality of the people who live near St. Albans in welcoming my children and their school in their neighborhood.

Washington has a diversity of people and, fortunately, a diversity of schools. In addition to the Episcopalian School that my children attend, there is one--and only one--Jewish elementary school. I 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, I 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.

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--just as my children, and others, assemble at St. Albans.

The Jewish Primary Day School is committed to staying in the District of Columbia. I 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. I know that the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital has been sensitive to the needs of prospective neighbors, as well as those like myself who live a little farther down 16th St. 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

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events and to set up a liaison committee to assure considerate interface with neighbors.

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

Yours truly,

Ottamissiah Moore

Ottamissiah Moore

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