Derrick Griffin
1650 Jonquil Street, NW
Washington, DC 20012

March 21, 2000

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Application No. 16556

Dear Chairperson Reid and Committee Members:

As a resident within 200 feet of the proposed Jewish Primary Day School, I am submitting this letter in opposition to application no. 16556. My reasons for opposing this application are simple and based on fact. The Shepherd Park and Colonial Village community cannot withstand the additional traffic, noise and pollution that would accompany the location of "**any school**" or "**place of business**" at the proposed sites 7712 and 7701 16th Street, NW.

Our neighborhood is currently home to Shepherd Elementary, the Lowell School and the ~~Revel~~ School. Walter Reed Hospital and over 30,000 daily commuters use Sixteenth Street and the surrounding streets of our neighborhood as their gateway in and out of the District of Columbia. The commuters who pass through our community each day have no regard for the community. They pollute our streets and yards with their trash; they disobey the traffic signs and speed limits with total disregard for safety and the safety of our residents. Yet we are asked to accept on faith that the parents, faculty and independent service vehicles that will visit the proposed site will be different from the nurses, soldiers, parents, teachers, and government workers that pass through our community today.

There has been no insurance to the community that the temporary request will not become permanent. They are no formal parking and traffic rules of governance, with enforcement plans and penalties for failing to comply. What there has been is wheeling and dealing, leveraging and posturing, lawyer-ring and promising.

I am sympathetic to the children of JPDS; they will have to relocate to a new location very soon and again in three-five years. However, their need to relocate with such expedience and frequency is the result of poor planning and oversight by the governing boards of JPDS. I firmly believe that the children of JPDS will survive for JPDS has prepared them well. What fears me most is what will happen to the Shepherd Park and Colonial Village community, if you allow this what will be next.

Respectfully,

Derrick Griffin

BZA
CASE No. 16556
EXHIBIT No. 326

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District of Columbia
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