Cesare Calari and Jennifer Johnson-Calari
2205 Foxboro Pl., NW
Washington DC 20007

March 14, 2000

'00 MAR 16 P3:43
OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Ms. Jerrily Kress, Director
Office of Zoning
441 4th ST NW
Suite 210
Washington DC 20001

RE: Case # 16559: Application by The Field School to purchase the Cafritz Estate

Dear Madam:

We are direct neighbors of the Cafritz Estate and share 180 feet of an open common property line. Our home sits only 15' from the Estate, which is situated on a 4' retaining wall above our garden. From our third floor bedroom windows, there is a direct sight into our bedrooms of only 20'. Our property was carved out of the Estate and then divided in a way that afforded privacy only if the Cafritz Estate remained a park-like setting.

We support the current proposal by the Field School on the following grounds:

1. **They have demonstrated good faith and integrity in consulting with the immediate neighbors in the early stages of the design and followed through with a plan that respected the immediate neighbors' requests for privacy and light.** No permanent structures were placed in the southernmost zone between Foxboro Place, W Street and Foxhall. They did this voluntarily without our having to hire lawyers nor make legal threats, demonstrating a bona fide intent to work with the neighbors.

2. The architectural plans are beautiful and in harmony with the existing building, the natural contours of the land and the beauty of Foxhall Road with its historical estates.

3. The existing traffic situation, whereby thousands of Maryland and Virginia commuters speed down an unpatrolled, two lane road with no sidewalks is unacceptable. The school would effectively slow down traffic and add a sorely needed sidewalk. We, and many of our neighbors, have young children and cannot walk the one to three block distance from our homes to the local schools, churches, pool and library located south of us because it requires walking down Foxhall Road. **The dirt "path" along Foxhall Road is at places only twelve inches wide,** overgrown with tree roots and within 2 feet of cars moving at average speeds of 40 miles per hour. Because of GW-Mount Vernon, there are no direct alternative pedestrian routes.

   I have never been able to leave our cul de sac to push a stroller, walk a dog or teach my daughter to ride a bike. We have heard too many objections to the plan from commuters whose only interest in our neighborhood is as a high speed artery between their homes and place of work. The Field School has offered to open its playing fields, tennis courts and grounds to us during the weekend, an initiative which we welcome on behalf of our children

While our interests represent a minority view relative to the thousands of commuters who use Foxhall Road, we hope that you will give special consideration to our particular exposure to developments that are literally in our backyard. Our support is based on the current proposal and we reserve the right to withdraw it should there be any modifications that adversely affect the issues of privacy, light or traffic control.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Johnson-Calari for

The Calari Family

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 134

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.134