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2950 Garfield Terrace, NW ~ Washington, DC 20008
Home Phone 202-462-3898

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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 21, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for The Field School
Foxhall Road, NW (the former Cafritz Estate) Case #16559

Dear Commissioner Reid:

The purpose of this letter is to express my strong support for the application of The Field School to establish a private school on the former Cafritz Estate located along Foxhall Road, NW. I believe that the development plan proposed by The Field School will create no objectionable conditions to the surrounding community and will not create any detrimental impact on the immediate neighbors of the site.

Perhaps you will listen to my voice as I have had 25 years experience living directly across the street from the Maret School. Administrations at the school have come and gone, but as an entity the school has always been mindful of the fact that it inhabits a residential community. Particularly in the last several years, when they have undergone a great deal of building and expansion, they have gone out of their way to keep their neighbors informed and have even solicited their ideas. Communication has been the key and this has made for a better sense of community all the way around. Personally, I would much prefer having the laughter of children outside my window, than the eyesore of any commercial development.

I want to commend The Field School for the steps it has taken in reaching out to the community early in the design process of the school buildings, athletic facilities and the location of the entrances to the School and parking spaces. The end result is a plan that I believe creates a beautiful environment for the School's students, faculty and parents, as well as the surrounding neighborhood. It is definitely a good use of this property which has been vacant for far too long. I am also impressed by the School's willingness to meet on a regular basis with representatives from the neighborhood to address issues of concern. I feel confident that Field will be a good neighbor.

As a resident of the District of Columbia, I believe that keeping high caliber schools like Field here is in the best interests of the entire DC community and should be encouraged. I appreciate your attention to this letter, and I ask that you expedite the approval of The Field School's application.

Sincerely,

Suzanne B. Tolstoy

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BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 140

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.140