2850 Arizona Terrace, NW
Washington, D.C. 20016
March 12, 2000

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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Appeals
One Judiciary Square
Washington, D.C.

To the Board:

We are writing to you to support the Field School's application to develop the Cafritz Estate on Foxhall Road as a school. We are residents of the Palisades Community and parents of two Field School students. We commute daily on Foxhall Road.

The Field School proposal will not cause "gridlock" on Foxhall as its opponents allege.

- The students are accustomed to using public transportation and are proud of their independence. The school's plan to link to both the red and blue Metro lines will be popular with the students and essential to their ability to reach the school.

- The shuttle bus pickups at sites away from Foxhall Road will appeal to parents who now drop their children off at the school because it is so convenient to down town offices. Those parents have no interest in backtracking to Foxhall Road. Even those of us who live close by will prefer the drop off sites to a Foxhall delivery.

- There will not be an upsurge of students driving to school. Field has actively discouraged student driving in its tenure in Kalorama. It has agreed to allow parking space only for carpooling students at the new location and has undertaken to prevent students from parking on side streets.

- The problem now with Foxhall Road is not gridlock or even impending gridlock. The problem is speeding and high volume. The lights that are proposed with the new school will actually make Foxhall less of a "shoot the chute" road race than it is today without increasing the traffic on Foxhall by any noticeable amount. Moreover, the neighbors of the Cafritz estate have already agressively protected themselves from traffic (many no left turn signs) and speed (stop signs at almost every corner, enforced by the police) in the neighboring streets.

There are other reasons to support the rezoning. The Field proposal will keep this wonderful green space open to the community. Its playing field will be available on the weekend for others and it will still be a place to walk. Our area doesn't have many such opportunities. And although the area has an array of excellent public and private elementary schools there is no private highschool (other than the special purpose Lab School) in the area. This community is lucky to attract this high school with the values and overall excellence that Field provides. I hope you will permit it to become a contributing member of the community in its location on Foxhall Road.

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 174

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.174

Please approve Field's application.

Sincerely,

Mary Baluss
Michael Leonard

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Michael Leonard

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