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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 22, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street N.W., Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Board Of Zoning Adjustment Application for The Field School
Foxhall Road N.W., Case #16559

Dear Commissioner Reid:

I know that the Board has received impassioned opposition to the application of the Field School for a private school on the Cafritz estate. We want to speak with equal passion about the seriousness and responsibility to the neighborhood with which Field has approached its application. From the very beginning, the Field administration said it did not want to disrupt the neighborhood. We heard right away that it was not going to try to gain access the campus from 44th Street. Also from the very beginning, it engaged a traffic consultant to consider and solve the very issues that the ANC now raises.

It seems to us that the main issue for the neighborhood is the commuter traffic that travels up and down Foxhall Road. It does not appear that the objections relate to the building and surrounding facilities itself, which have been designed with a view towards the least impact on the neighborhood. Field has thought creatively and responsibly about the traffic, by agreeing to stagger starting times, requiring drivers to have an additional passenger, agreeing to no left turn into the campus during the morning rush hour, and capping the number of students and cars. We, as parents, have no intention of driving onto the campus in the morning or afternoon. We, like many D.C., Maryland, and Virginia parents will be driving to a shuttle stop.

The administration and faculty at Field instill within their students a sense of caring and responsibility. One of the hallmarks of the Field education is to appreciate and value our wonderful city. Field chose its current location because of proximity to all that DC has to offer. It would take the same approach to the beautiful neighborhoods surrounding Foxhall Road. It would be a shame to lose Field and the enthusiasm for Washington DC it inspires in its community by denying its petition.

We urge you to approve the Field application. Thank you for considering this letter.

Sincerely,

Robert D. MacDougall

Robert D. MacDougall

Melinda G. Murray

Melinda G. Murray

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 232

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.232