6132 Broad Branch Road, NW
Washington, D.C. 20015
March 22, 2000

OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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Ms. Shiela Cross Reid
District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001

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

Dear Commissioner Reid:

I am writing this letter to express my strong support for the application of The Field School to establish a private school on the former Cafritz Estate located on Foxhall Road in Northwest D.C. My understanding of the current response to the school's presence in the neighborhood is that many of the residents believe that it could only have a detrimental impact on the surrounding community. Clearly The Field School is sensitive to this issue and has gone to great lengths to be responsive to these concerns.

As a parent of a current and former student at Field, I have over the years gotten to know how the school operates and does business. One of the most favorable assessments that I can report is that when the school says that they are going to do something, they follow through with their commitment. They weigh what is brought before them carefully and respond with thoughtful solutions. They are very conscientious about fulfilling what they commit to. In other words, they are a trustworthy operation, one whose word can be counted on.

The Field School has reached out to the community early in the design process to consider the neighbors' concerns about the presence of the school. The plan that has resulted from such outreach is one that I believe reflects the diverse needs of the students, parents, faculty and surrounding community. It is a good use of this property, besides being an aesthetic contribution to such a lovely area.

Although it is understandable that the neighbors do not want more traffic in their community, the traffic management plan that the school has devised is very doable and should not create a problem for the residents. Field has already demonstrated their willingness to work with the community to address issues of concern. As stated previously, when they commit to something, they follow through. The community can count on them being good neighbors not just during this approval phase, but ongoing. The school is quite good at nurturing their relationships – definitely with the students and their families, with the faculty from all reports, and their responsiveness to expressed concerns from Foxhall residents to date is clearly indicative of what is to come.

As a resident of the District of Columbia, I believe that keeping high caliber schools like Field is in the best interests of the entire community and should be strongly encouraged. I ask that you approve The Field School's application to locate its school on the Cafritz Estate. I believe that its presence will be an asset to the Foxhall community in the years to come.

I appreciate your attention to this letter.

Sincerely,

Suzanne M. Frederick

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 249

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.249