March 28, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
414 4th Street NW, 2d floor
Washington DC 20001

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OFFICE OF ZONING

Re: Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for the Field School, Foxhall Road NW (former Cafritz Estate), case no. 16559

Dear Commissioner Reid:

As a long time D.C. resident I have great sympathy for the Foxhall neighborhood's traffic concerns. That is why I have been particularly pleased with The Field School's sensitivity in working to minimize this problem. This is an issue for all of us, but denying the Field School's application will not make this problem go away.

I also understand that change is hard, yet I truly am puzzled by the protests of city residents about schools like Field. When did we stop thinking of schools as part of the community? When did we start thinking of them as nuisances? We are not talking about a toxic waste site! Rather, schools like Field promote the well being of D.C. Their presence testifies to the pride and faith we have in our city and its future.

I find it ironic that citizens who complain that our streets are overrun by commuters from the suburbs would deny Washington schools and children eager to be good neighbors. If we orient our children away from the city during their formative years they will be tomorrow's commuters. This does not have to happen.

There is an opportunity for a different ending. I believe that our children will grow up to support the city that supported them. Approving The Field School's application can help make that true. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Denise M. Fantone
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Washington, D.C. 20015
(202) 966-4559

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 287

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.287