VAN DUSEN ARCHITECTS

March 24, 2000

Ms. Sheila Cross Reid
Chairperson, Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th St., NW
2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20001

'00 MAR 28 P1:36
OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Re: Board of Zoning Adjustment for the Field School, Foxhall Rd., NW (the former Cafritz Estate); case # 16559

Dear Ms. Reid and Board of Zoning Adjustment Commissioners:

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

As a twenty year resident of Washington, and a Field parent for two years, I feel very strongly that educational institutions like The Field School, born and bred in DC and which have made such profound contributions to the city, should stay in the city when the time comes to expand and improve facilities. Field is committed to DC, and that's one of the reasons we were drawn to Elizabeth Ely's wonderful school in the first place. Field stresses community involvement, has always been very committed to the city, and will continue to be in its new home.

I also want to commend The Field School for the steps it has taken in reaching out to the community early in the site planning and building design phases. As a practicing DC architect and member of the Field School Project Design Committee, I can testify to a genuine concern on the part of school leaders for any possible detrimental impact on neighbors, and I think the proposed site plan reflects that concern. The end result is a plan that I believe creates a beautiful environment for The Field School's students, faculty, and parents, as well as the surrounding neighborhood.

We realize that many neighborhood residents are concerned about the impact of The Field School on an already stressed traffic corridor. But I believe that the comprehensive traffic plan endorsed by the school, which would locate traffic signals at crucial junctures along Foxhall Rd. will ameliorate those existing problems.

I appreciate your attention to this letter and I ask that you approve The Field School's application.

Sincerely yours,

Ben Van Dusen

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BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 303

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.303