Richard B. Griffin Jr.
2200 Foxhall Road, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

'00 FEB 29 AM 11:48
OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 23, 2000

Ms. Jerrily R. Kress
Director,
The Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Reference: Case No. 16559

Dear Ms. Kress:

This is to register Mrs. Griffin's and my opposition to the above referenced application of The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation/The Field School for a special exception to establish a private school for a maximum of 320 students and 74 faculty and staff at 2301 Foxhall Road, N.W., across the street from my residence.

The proposed use would create extreme vehicular congestion, causing unsafe neighborhood streets and clogged commuter throughput on Foxhall Road, especially during rush hour, and result in permanent negative environmental impacts that would seriously diminish the quality of our residential neighborhood's environment.

Traffic on Foxhall Road is already seriously congested and the addition of school traffic will make the situation worse. The accommodation of as many as additional 320 vehicular turns (as estimated by the Field School) into and out of the proposed school twice a day will have a serious detrimental impact on traffic flow on Foxhall Road, especially during the morning rush hour when commuter and school traffic patterns will converge. Furthermore, the school's traffic consultant Gorove/Slade Associates conducted a flawed study: their data was obtained March 11 and again on April 6, 1999, during the spring break/Easter period when traffic congestion was not at its normal peak.

There is the potential for serious road safety concerns as well: the proposed location of a traffic light at the intersection of W Street and Foxhall to accommodate the increased traffic will inevitably result in serious traffic accidents, especially at night or during inclement weather. These will occur as speeding traffic proceeding downhill on Foxhall Road towards W Street negotiates the blind curve opposite the entrance to 2301 Foxhall Road and suddenly is confronted with backed up traffic waiting at a hitherto invisible

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 36

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.36

traffic light. Any proposed traffic solution short of eliminating these additional vehicles on Foxhall Road is unacceptable for safety, traffic, and environmental reasons.

Thus, if the plans calling for the construction of such facilities as driveways and parking lots located next to the private residences on W Street as filed with the BZA are followed, the result will be major disturbances to the land and the natural watershed and underground natural aquifers. This will likely result in serious permanent ecological impacts and the emission of dangerous fumes from idling vehicles in car pool queues in the direction of the existing adjacent homes.

For the reasons stated above, we strongly urge rejection of this application.

Sincerely,

Richard B. Griffin, Jr.

cc: Katherine Patterson
Council of the District of Columbia
441 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001