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April 3, 2000

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OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

By Hand

Ms. Eleanor Roberts Lewis, Chair
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D
5034 Dana Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

Re: BZA Application No.16559
The Field School
2301 Foxhall Road, N.W.

Dear Commissioner Lewis:

We are in receipt of your letter to us of March 30, 2000. On behalf of The Field School, we will be pleased to present the Commission with the materials requested in your letter at the ANC's meeting on April 10, 2000. We are also enclosing the revised Entrance Plan to the Property with the Gorove-Slade Associates narrative explaining the traffic ramifications of the new Entrance Plan.

On behalf of The Field School, we would like express our displeasure to the unfair implication in your letter suggesting that the ANC has not been "keep abreast" of the School's new proposals. The Field School has endeavored to keep the ANC, and the public, completely informed about its plans for the property. It first appeared before the ANC before it had even retained an architect to look at site development of the property in March 8, 1999. We again appeared before the ANC in July 1999. We held a separate meeting with Commissioner Ann Heuer in February 2000 and again appeared before the ANC in March 2000. The ANC and the community were completely kept abreast of this project as it evolved.

The new Entrance Plan that is being proposed is a direct result to a recommendation that the Department of Public Works and the ANC made as part of its resolution on March 13, 2000. The ANC resolution stated to the BZA that, if the BZA were to approve the project, it should require a left turn lane on Foxhall Road.

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 397

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.397

The Field School took that recommendation seriously and commissioned its engineers and architects to begin looking at the feasibility of building such a left turn lane. That work began on March 15. It took a week to complete the site surveys and various studies, check with the Department of Public Works and design a left turn lane that is safe and efficient. Because this lane will involve the Department of Public Works, the Plan could not be finalized until it had the approval of that Department. A meeting with that Department, showing the concept plan for the left-turn lane, was held in the afternoon on March 22, 2000. The DPW staff asked for additional information with regard to the engineering details which was provided to DPW on Thursday, March 23. It was only then that DPW orally agreed to the left-turn lane. Between Thursday afternoon and Friday (the 23rd and 24th) the Plans were formally drawn and they were hand-delivered to your residence as soon as they were done in the afternoon of the 24th. The ANC was "kept abreast."

This left-turn lane, which will cost this non-profit school approximately half-million dollars, was designed at the express suggestion of the ANC and the Department of Public Works and delivered to the parties as soon as it was designed and approved. We respect the ANC process and due process in general. We would have preferred that the ANC request honestly that it needed more time to study at this plan rather than to suggest at the BZA hearing, and in your letter, that the Plan was held in abeyance, thereby accusing The Field School of trying to sneak something past the Advisory Neighborhood Commission. Nonetheless, we look forward to presenting the new Entrance Plan to the ANC at its meeting on April 10.

Sincerely,

Phil T. Feola

Paul A. Tummonds

Enclosure
cc: Elizabeth Ely