AILEEN M. SOLOMON
4509 Dexter Street, N.W.
Washington, DC. 20007-1116
March 23, 2000

District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W., Second Floor
Washington, DC 20001

OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
'00 APR 14 P3:57

Re: Application of The Field School
(the former Cafritz Estate)

Ladies and Gentleman:

I write in support of The Field School's zoning application to the Board.

I have resided at 4509 Dexter Street, N.W., since 1979, and have been a DC resident since 1964. I serve as a fulltime Reading Specialist with the Arlington County School System and hold a Masters degree in Education from George Washington University.

While I was associated with the Kingsbury Center I had the pleasure of tutoring at Field. I spent two enjoyable and stimulating years at the school. Field had a wonderful staff, motivated students, a fine academic reputation, and an antiquated physical plant. Here, I speak from experience, having taught classes at other independent schools, including Maret and Beauvoir. Students at those schools enjoy superb physical facilities and participate in sports activities on their own "turf." My own two children attended Georgetown Day School and GDS High School, which now has a modern building and campus at Fessenden Street, N.W. Like Field, for many years GDS operated from cramped quarters on McArthur Boulevard. The move to the new campus in the early '90s enabled my son to participate in soccer, lacrosse and other team sports without having to leave the school premises. This same benefit has accrued to Tenleytown adults and children who use the basketball court and field after school hours and on weekends.

Therefore, I am surprised and disappointed that some of my neighbors have erected signs objecting to Field's zoning application: In my opinion a fine private school in my "backyard" would enhance the neighborhood.

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 407

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.407

Increased traffic during the school year is, of course, a concern. I commute daily on Foxhall Road to my job in Arlington. However, I am convinced that with appropriate planning (Field is going to cooperate), including a stoplight on W Street, there would be minimal impact. Indeed, I would expect there to be less traffic with The Field School, than would occur if the Cafritz Estate were largely paved over and dedicated to a multi-unit residential development.

In short, I fully support The Field School's zoning application and respectfully urge the Board to approve it.

Sincerely,

Aileen M. Solomon

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