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July 24, 2000

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF ZONING

Hon. Sheila Cross Reid, BZA Chairperson
C/o Ms. Jerrily R. Kress, Director
The Office of Zoning
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Case No. 16559
The Field School-Special Exception.

Dear Ms. Reid:

Reference is made to my letters to you of March 9 and May 8, 2000, in which I opposed the application of the Cafritz Foundation/Field School for a special exception to establish a private school at 2301 Foxhall Road, NW. In those letters, I explained that the most compelling reasons for urging rejection of this application pertain to traffic congestion and safety. Based on the record, the Field School has failed to satisfy those legitimate concerns. Nevertheless, in this letter I will offer a comment on a point advanced by the Field School at the May 9 hearing.

At the BZA hearing on May 8, 9, a representative of the Field School testified about a shuttle bus plan which he claimed would ease the volume of morning and afternoon vehicular traffic. This was clearly an effort to convince the Board that the school would take certain steps to alleviate the obvious additional traffic burden on our neighborhood. This plan involved, if I recall correctly, shuttle busses transporting students to and from Tenley Circle and the Metro stop at George Washington University as well as other unspecified locations.

While I do not question the sincerity of the shuttle bus proposal, I submit that the plan described by the School's representative is unworkable and would result in an administrative and logistical nightmare. Frankly, in my opinion, such a plan is doomed to failure.

In conclusion, the Cafritz property is inappropriate, inaccessible, and unsafe for a school. Moreover, this location for a private school as contemplated in this application would constitute an unfair and unreasonable additional burden to our neighborhood. As the ANC has unanimously recommended, the BZA should also reject the Field School's application.

Respectfully yours,

Robert B. Norris

BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 450

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.450