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Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street NW
Room 210
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Application Case No. 16611: Proposed Edmund Burke Expansion

Dear Board Members:

I am writing you as both a resident of the District of Columbia and as a parent of a student at the Edmund Burke School, an 11th grader. From my perspective the proposed expansion of the Burke school is positive for both the city and the neighborhood, and I encourage you to lend your support to this improvement.

Education is clearly one of the key factors that contributes to the well being of any city. When we moved here as my daughter was entering her freshman year of high-school we wanted to live in the city provided that a quality education was available - Burke has provided that education. The school offers an academic structure that allows students to get educated in the basics and expand beyond the basics to satisfy their curiosity. The population of the school is diverse by design with many of the students taking advantage of some form of financial aid. While the school is relatively small, athletics are offered and the teams have been quite competitive in their leagues. And last, but not least, the faculty is absolutely dedicated to the development of each and every student. This is a school that any city would be proud to have located in their metropolitan area.

Having a school in the neighborhood is not a new concept for the Upton location. A school has been on the current premises for approximately 90 years, and Burke has occupied it for 27 years. What perhaps has changed over time is the sensitivity that the school has toward its residential neighbors. Countless meetings have taken place where Burke representatives have listened and, to the extent possible, incorporated many of the suggestions of the residents. Traffic is a key issue which has been addressed over the past year for the current school configuration and which will be improved upon when the new facility is built. Expansion of program space in the new facility will provide more inside meeting places for the students. And finally, a multi-million dollar investment into the neighborhood can only improve the prestige and value of the properties there.

I urge your support for the Edmund Burke expansion. It is good for Washington which is enjoying a terrific revitalization, it is good for the neighborhood and, importantly, it is good for the students who attend Burke.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John A. McAdams

BZA
Case No. 16611
Exhibit No. 122

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16611
EXHIBIT NO.122