7210 Blair Rd NW
Washington DC 20012
April 3, 2001

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

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To the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

We are seeking your support to allow Burke School to expand in a responsible way to continue its outstanding job of educating young people, **BZA Case Number:16611.**

We chose a private school because our boys have learning disabilities which would have made it very hard for them to succeed in a large public school environment. But we chose Burke because it has a unique commitment to the community and larger society. This is a school which fosters community service, including relationships with over 50 community service sites serving the elderly, the working poor, the homeless, underserved youth, and so on. Our daughter has spent one day a week for the last several months working with Food and Friends. She comes home each week filled with new stories and a sense of accomplishment. Our son just spent his spring break volunteering with PALS, an after-school program. Our oldest son spent months engaged with learning about and serving the homeless.

A school like Burke provides an important educational option for DC residents and enhances the DC community as a whole. And it has a commitment to diversity in its student body. Students of color are 22% of the student body -- our children are among them.

Burke has also been very attentive to the concerns of its immediate community. It has made a significant financial investment in relieving traffic congestion. In fact, if Burke is allowed to pursue its building plan, traffic problems will be significantly *decreased*, not increased, because traffic patterns will be able to be rerouted to Connecticut Avenue.

We hope we will have your support on this important case. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Karen Nussbaum and Ira Arlook

BZA
Case No. 16611
Exhibit No. 138

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16611
EXHIBIT NO.138