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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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November 13, 2000

District of Columbia Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, N.W.
Room 210
Washington, DC 20001
Ref: BZA Application Case No. 16611: Proposed Edmund Burke School Expansion

Dear Sirs/Madams:

I am writing in support of the application by the Edmund Burke School for a zoning adjustment to build an addition to their existing school building. I have been a resident of the District for over twenty years. I currently have a son at Burke and a daughter in the DC public schools.

The District of Columbia is a wonderful place to live and is becoming even better because of the vitality and diversity that it offers its citizens. We have stayed in the District because we feel part of the community and because there are schools like Burke and Janney Elementary that attract and retain residents that are committed to making our community a better place. Burke, in particular, is an excellent resource for the District because of the diverse student body, the school's commitment to community service and the strong financial aid program. The proposed new building would be located in an area that is already predominately commercial and the school administration has shown their commitment to working with the neighborhood by changing the original design to better accommodate the traffic flow.

Many of Burke's students and their families live in the District. Like us, they have a chosen to remain in the city because they are committed to living in a diverse urban environment Many of us are involved in community and civic activities in the city. While most of us could have moved to the suburbs, we have stayed in the District because we like the lifestyle it offers and the educational choices we have. We also care about Burke and we look forward to new space for academic studies, an expanded arts program and a new library, as well as improvements in the currently congested traffic pattern.

I hope that you will give your approval to the application for the school expansion.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marta V. Goldsmith

BZA
Case No. 16611
Exhibit No. 80

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16611
EXHIBIT NO.80