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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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November 12, 2000

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

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I am a longtime resident of the District of Columbia. In addition to having a son at Edmund Burke School, I currently also have a child happily enrolled in D.C. Public Schools. I am proud to claim my D.C. background and am pleased to see the direction the District seems to be headed.

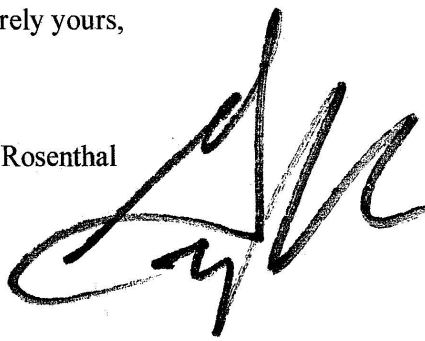
I am involved in the community and am particularly interested in social action projects. I am pleased that the Edmund Burke community shares this important commitment to social action that enhances the quality of life for the entire area. This past May I was fortunate enough to observe members of the Burke student body set the Guinness World Record by cooking the world's biggest Matzo Ball at D.C. Central Kitchen. It was inspiring to see several dozen Burke students, working under the direction of local restaurant legend Mel Krupin, create a huge matzo ball. In addition to the record setter, created during this Burke initiated project, they also made enough regular size matzo balls to provide meals for 2,000 of the city's neediest residents. This city needs the wide eyes and cheers of kids as they create something special that helps the community and develops the city's future leaders.

In the 1960's, when I was in high school, I took classes at the Heights School when it was located next to Rodman's Drugstore on Garrison Street. It seemed a shame to me when I heard that the Heights School had moved to Potomac, Maryland. I ask myself now why we do have to lose resources to the suburbs. It seems very important to me that the community must manage to work with and balance the needs of its various constituencies—not only to preserve tax-paying citizen's options for their children's education—but also to preserve the diversity and vitality of the city itself. For families such as mine, who want to remain in the city, it is absolutely critical to retain excellent schools such as Edmund Burke as a compliment to the public school system.

I look forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of Washington D.C. and of Edmund Burke School. Seeing both happen will give me great pleasure.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Rosenthal



BZA
Case No. 16611
Exhibit No. 83

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16611
EXHIBIT NO.83