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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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December 31, 2000

D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street, NW
Room 210
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Application Case 16611: Proposed Edmund Burke School Expansion

Dear BZA Members:

We are writing this letter to support the above referenced application from the Edmund Burke School located on Upton Street at the corner of Connecticut Avenue. We have lived in the District of Columbia as property owners and taxpayers since 1985. Our son attended Murch Elementary School from 1991 through 1998 and is now a student at Edmund Burke.

The future of the District of Columbia depends on maintaining both public and private schools within its borders so parents can make the appropriate choices for their children. Strong schools with adequate facilities will allow parents to continue to live in the District as opposed to moving out to the suburbs. Burke is an integral part of the school system in the District. It provides an outstanding option for District parents and draws families from around the metropolitan area into the city. Burke has high academic standards, is committed to having a diverse student body and is developing good citizens by requiring students to provide at least 60 hours of service to the community before graduation. An increasing number of District families are applying to Burke and the BZA should allow the school to meet this demand by supporting Burke's proposal.

The location of the school allows many students to commute using Metro bus or rail service. Parents who need to drive their children to school can use either Connecticut Avenue or Rock Creek Park for the major part of the trip. Both of these roads are modified during rush hours to accommodate an increased traffic flow and the additional volume associated with Edmund Burke School should be minimal. Nevertheless, in the immediate area around the school on Upton Street, traffic can be heavy during morning hours. It is for this reason that the Burke expansion plan includes new driveways that will allow for off-street student drop-off. This will produce traffic patterns that are safer for students and that benefit Burke's neighbors by reducing congestion on Upton Street.

We ask that you support the District's future and approve the Proposed Edmund Burke School Expansion.

Sincerely,

Andrea Stone

Stephen Zuckerman

BZA
Case No. 16611
Exhibit No. 94

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16611
EXHIBIT NO.94