March 20, 2002

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Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 16852
St. Patrick's School - 4925 MacArthur Blvd.

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board:

As a parent of three young children, I am writing in support of St. Patrick's School's application to place a program containing grades seven and eight on the property at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard. There is a great need for educational opportunities for children in the Palisades neighborhood.

Palisades has always been a community with a strong tradition of education. Many schools in the community have been here for decades. These include Key Elementary, the former Georgetown Day School, and St. Patrick's. Palisades is also a wonderful environment for a child to go to school because of the Palisades Recreation Center, the swimming program at the Lab School, the annual Fourth of July Parade, the neighborhood-serving retail uses and all the other amenities. As a parent, I would like to see that strong tradition continue. I believe it is of benefit to my own children, the children of the community, and to the neighborhood in general.

I am also impressed that St. Patrick's is working hard to ensure there are no negative impacts on the community as a result of this new use. I believe the proposed shuttle arrangement will avoid any traffic congestion on Ashby. It is also clear that the change from the night uses by the Psychoanalytic Society to the day use of the middle school will be of benefit in terms of noise reduction in the evening hours.

I am also glad to see that St. Patrick's will be preserving the existing building and open space on the site. I believe this is vastly preferable to the alternative, which is several homes built on a subdivided lot.

For all of the above reasons, I am delighted to offer my support to St. Patrick's application.

Sincerely,

Brian Giannattasio
1511 S Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20009

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 122

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.122