March 22, 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 teacher at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School and resident of the District of Columbia, I write to offer my support of the proposed use of 4925 MacArthur Boulevard by St. Patrick's School. Over the course of my twenty-five years of teaching in independent schools in Washington, and as a parent of two children born and educated in the District, I have seen an ever-increasing need for more educational choices for parents and students. Many children, in the vulnerable middle school years, would benefit from a smaller, academically structured learning environment. I believe it would benefit not only the Palisades area but the Washington area as a whole to have, within its midst, a middle school program providing such an educational environment and program as St. Patrick's provides its students.

St. Patrick's School has proven itself to be a responsible community member in the Palisades area and in the greater Washington community. It has established itself as a model of academic achievement and commitment to social responsibility. I feel confident that the extension of its program to Grades 7 and 8 will only increase the benefits to the immediate area and our city as a whole. I feel equally confident that the citizens in Palisades, relying on the strong values and commitment to civic responsibility they so clearly display, will realize the value and the important opportunity this program will bring to the community.

I urge you to approve St. Patrick's application. If a city neighborhood is unwilling to invest its good will in children and their education, what would they seek for the future? Surely, in this world where many things are not clear, this opportunity represents a clear choice for hope in ourselves and our children.

Sincerely,

Anne Field

Anne Field
Lower School teacher, St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 124
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.124