Victor Barrett
2308 41st Street, NW, apt. #B-1
Washington, DC 20005

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March 25, 2002

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

Re: BZA Application # 16852, St. Patrick's School – 4925 MacArthur Blvd.

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board:

I am writing in support of St. Patrick's BZA application for a special exception to use the property at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard as academic space for its 7th and 8th grade program. Although I am not a parent, I am concerned about the educational opportunities the District affords its families. There is a critical gap in the supply and demand for Grades 7 and 8 spaces in Washington, and I appreciate that St. Patrick's is trying to fill the need.

I am impressed that St. Patrick's is committed to ensuring that its presence will have no negative impacts on the community. The shuttle bus proposal will avoid traffic congestion on Ashby Street. Students will be dropped off and picked up at the existing bus pad located directly in front of the house. Teachers will park in the ample lot already existing at the site, thereby eliminating the need for parking on Ashby Street. In addition, noise will be reduced in the evening by changing the house's use from the night uses by the Psychoanalytic Society to the day use as a middle school. Lastly, I am pleased that St. Patrick's will be preserving the existing building and open green space on the site.

Therefore, for all the aforementioned reasons, I strongly urge the Board of Zoning Adjustment to grant St. Patrick's application.

Sincerely,

Victor Barrett

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Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 134
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.134