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April 4, 2002

Chairman Geoffrey Griffs
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA No. 16852

Dear Chairman Griffs and Members of the Board:

We are writing to express our support of St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School's application to place its middle school at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard. Our children have attended St. Patrick's for years. It is a wonderful, nurturing school with an outstanding academic program.

St. Patrick's proposal addresses the critical need for more middle school options for students in the District of Columbia by offering a program for seventh and eighth graders. Providing additional educational opportunities in the Palisades neighborhood will serve the community and help the city attract and retain families. Three years ago we moved from Montgomery County into the District of Columbia because our involvement with St. Patrick's had connected us to the city. We felt it was time to become DC residents.

Mindful of being a good neighbor, St. Patrick's has offered a set of conditions intended to avoid negative impacts on the neighborhood, such as the proposed shuttle bus and the commitment to preserve the open space on the site. The school has made every effort to address community concerns.

As the Rev. Elizabeth McWhorter, rector of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, and Peter Barrett, head of St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School, have said, St. Patrick's proposal responds to "two large instincts: to serve children well and to be the best of neighbors." We strongly urge you to support the school's application.

Sincerely,

Traci and Drew Grigg

Traci and Drew Grigg

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 138

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.138