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March 21, 2002

Chairman Geoffrey Griffis
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W., 2nd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA No. 16852

Dear Chairman Griffis:

I am writing to express my support for the expansion of St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School into the building at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard.

I believe that the expansion of a first-rate school like St. Patrick's in the Palisades neighborhood is a tremendous benefit to the community. It increases the opportunities for a top-notch educational experience for neighborhood children at the middle school level. As you may know, there is a need for middle school options in the District of Columbia, and more specifically, in the Palisades neighborhood. I am delighted that St. Patrick's has stepped in to fill that need. Indeed, we moved our family to this neighborhood three years ago because of the proximity of good, private elementary schools, like St. Patrick's. Now that our children are approaching the age for middle school, we are particularly pleased that St. Patrick's has expanded to include the 7th and 8th grade years.

In addition, I am convinced that St. Patrick's use of the MacArthur Boulevard property would benefit the neighborhood by preserving a stately home and grounds on this historic thoroughfare. What a pleasure to all in the area to enjoy the large open space of the property without the fear of subdivision and development.

St. Patrick's is a valued and trustworthy member of our Palisades community. I am confident that its expanded presence at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard will benefit the entire neighborhood and especially its most valuable asset—our children. I urge you to support St. Patrick's expansion proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Lucy James Ordoobadi

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BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 141

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.141