4918 Ashby Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

April 4, 2002

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Jerrily Kress, Director
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
441 Fourth Street NW, Room 210
Washington, DC 20001

Subject: St. Patrick's Application for Special Exception, Case #16852

Dear Director Kress,

We are writing to express our opposition to St. Patrick's application to establish a school on the corner of MacArthur Blvd. and Ashby Street, NW.

My family and I have lived in the same place on Ashby Street for over fifty years. While the other parts of the city have grown, Ashby has remained a relatively quiet neighborhood that we have enjoyed. We are two doors up from the proposed school. From our door to the door of the old Victorian building St. Patrick's wants to use as a school, the distance is about 90 feet. Our property boundry is only 50 feet from the property boundry of the proposed school.

The proposed school will be disruptive to ourselves and our neighborhood because of the number of students (60 proposed students) and the noise they will create. We also believe the daily routines will impact our enjoyment of our family life in the neighborhood by creating objectionable traffic noise, congestion and safety issues. We believe that the location of this property and the great number of students that would use the school on such a small site would be detrimental to not only the safety of the students of the school but the safety of the neighbors. We have raised the issue of the proximity of the property to nearby streets and neighbors and asked what would happen if a ball or a frisbie were to land on Ashby Street or MacArthur Blvd. Most teenagers are oblivious to safety issues and the site is simply not big enough to handle sixty teenagers.

We urge the BZA to reject St. Patrick's application and save our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Diane Gearhart

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 153

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.153