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April 11, 2002 Re: BZA No. 16852

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board:

We are pleased to offer our strong support of the application of St. Patrick's School to use the existing building at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard for its middle school. We have been homeowners in the District of Columbia for over ten years, and we support the enhancement of educational opportunities for middle school students in the District. Having quality education options is an important way to enhance liveability in the District, and to attract families to live here.

We are familiar with the property that is the subject of the application and understand that it has been used for non-residential purposes for over 40 years. We believe that the proposed middle school use will make a far greater contribution to the neighborhood by expanding educational options for our children than the existing use by the Washington Psychoanalytic Society. We also believe that through a strict set of operating conditions, any potential adverse impacts on the neighborhood can be avoided. For example, we understand that the school has proposed a shuttle drop-off arrangement that will greatly limit any traffic on Ashby Street. We also understand that with the exception of one back-to-school night annually, there will be no night or weekend use of the property. We cannot imagine that the noise associated with 60 middle school students could have an adverse impact on this neighborhood. The site is located on a bus route and is also affected by the National Airport flight pattern. The proposed use is both reasonable and appropriate.

Our children have attended St. Patrick's School over the past four years, and we have been thrilled with the quality of education and character development they provide. The administrators and staff are wonderful people, committed to children's education and to working with the community to make the District a good place to live for all of us.

We urge you to consider our thoughts as you decide this application. In its efforts to attract new residents, the city must expand the educational options for our children.

Very truly yours,

Kelly Sweeney McShane
5011 34th St., NW

Kevin McShane

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 167

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.167