11 April 2002

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

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Re: BZA Application No. 16852
St. Patrick's School - 4925 MacArthur Blvd.

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board:

I am writing you today as a parent with two children going to Maret School and one at NCRC. I'm a long time District of Columbia resident, of which the last five years have been in the Palisades Community. I have been very disappointed to see the ongoing debates in the North West Current newspaper over the St. Patrick's School expansion to include a middle school. There is a tremendous need for school expansion to in the District of Columbia especially for middle school. Too many children are being forced to commute long distances to schools in MD and VA as there are not enough spaces for them near by, in their neighborhoods. We decided to move to the Palisades community because of its city convenience and friendly neighbors. We can not close the doors behind us, we must support the citizens needs living around us. For these reasons I am in support of St. Patrick's School adding a middle school at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard.

I believe that having an additional school on this site will be of tremendous benefit to the neighborhood. I have also been impressed with St. Patrick's tremendous efforts to ensure that the site has minimal impact on the neighborhoods noise and traffic issues.

In sum, I think that the proposed use is a benefit to the children of the District, particularly those of the Palisades. I also think the school will be a wonderful addition to the neighborhood. I urge you to approve St. Patrick's application.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Howard
5275 Partridge Lane, NW
Washington DC 20016

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 236

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.236