April 1, 2002

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

D.C. RECEIVED
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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 a D.C. resident and I am writing to offer my support for St. Patrick's School's application to place its middle school at 4925 MacArthur Boulevard. I am pleased that St. Patrick's plans to preserve the existing house, as well as the open space, on this site.

I have noticed that much of the open space along MacArthur Boulevard has been filled in by development during recent years. The proposed St. Patrick's site is one of the few remaining parcels that have not been subdivided for residential development. While I definitely am not opposed to new housing, I welcome the maintenance of open space when feasible.

Therefore I am very glad to see St. Patrick's plan for the site. I believe placement of the middle school there, with its predominantly daytime educational use, will benefit the neighborhood. I also am well aware of St. Patrick's well-thought out plans to limit traffic as well as the parking impact on the neighborhood.

I have had friends who have moved from the District to the suburbs in order to find more educational opportunities for their children. Good schools enable a neighborhood to attract families who will positively affect their community. St. Patrick's has been a good neighbor to the Palisades community for many years. I am glad that they have chosen to try to meet educational needs here, while at the same time contributing to neighborhood preservation. Therefore, I urge you to support their application.

Sincerely,

Marisa Birns

Marisa Birns
3124 Dumbarton Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20007

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 238

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.238