Mr. and Mrs. Campbell DeMallie, Jr.
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December 11, 2001

The Rt. Rev. Jane Holmes Dixon
Episcopal Church House
Mount St. Alban
Washington, DC 20016-5094

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Dear Bishop Dixon:

We are writing you to bring to your attention our concern with the proposed establishment of St Patrick's Episcopal Day School (grades 7 and 8) in the middle of our residential neighborhood on Ashby Street, NW. A copy of the proposal presented by St Patrick's school as well as a neighborhood site plan are included as background material.

In general, we are very sympathetic to educational needs and programs of the church. Both of our families came from the Episcopal tradition and we were married in the Episcopal church. Attending National Cathedral events at Christmas and Easter is a high point of the year as these events link us to childhood memories of the National Cathedral before it was finished.

However, the establishment of this school (which anticipates converting a large existing single family structure to house over 70 students and faculty) will become a very large and disruptive presence in our neighborhood of small residential houses. The number of students and faculty will effectively triple the current number of under thirty residents on a street that is only 400 feet long. We are fearful that our way of life will be drastically altered. Inevitable logistics and operation of the school will produce increased traffic, air pollution, noise and safety issues. These impacts are tangible offshoots of any increased population—no matter how worthy the goal. Since this neighborhood has had the same configuration for over 50 years and average residence of over 25 years each for the families on the street, we believe this unprecedented move by St Patrick's is ill advised and needs reconsideration.

We urge you to review this situation and help St. Patrick's congregation and associated school develop a more worthwhile site that would be located in an area more in keeping with its educational objectives.

Sincerely,

Katherine and Campbell DeMallie

Katherine and Campbell DeMallie

Cc: Peter Barrett

BZA Case#16852

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 38

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.38