March 26, 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:

As parents with two young children, native Washingtonians, and residents of the Palisades Community, we are writing to offer our support of St. Patrick's plans to use 4925 MacArthur Blvd. as a middle school. We are staying in the Palisades neighborhood to avail ourselves of the exceptional educational opportunities that St. Patrick's offers our children.

There is a critical need for middle school options in the District of Columbia. It is our hope that the DC Public Schools will continue to improve but until that time, some families will either send their children to DC private schools or move to Maryland or Virginia. That is the current reality facing our city. St. Patrick's is committed to providing financial aid so that all members of the DC community can have the wonderful education it offers.

We are familiar with the proposed site for St. Patrick's middle school. The St. Patrick's community has worked hard to win the support of the community by proposing a strict set of conditions – including the use of a shuttle bus – that will avoid any negative impact on the neighborhood. These conditions will limit traffic congestion.

St. Patricks has been an excellent neighbor – first as a church then as a school – for over thirty years. Our long-standing relationship with St. Patrick's is one of the reasons we love DC. We urge you to approve the application.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Ashbrook
James Ehrenhaft
4620 Q Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 90

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.90