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Washington, DC 20008

April 8, 2002

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

RE: BZA Application No. 16852
St. Patrick's School – 4925 MacArthur Blvd.

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our support for the proposed use of 4925 MacArthur Boulevard by St. Patrick's School.

Access to high quality education is critically important to building a vibrant, first class city. Mr. Chairman, just as you eloquently voiced your support for "an incredible opportunity to facilitate good urban development that will serve the current Columbia Heights Community and those that will be attracted to this area to live...", the citizens of Palisades and surrounding neighborhoods have a golden opportunity to strengthen middle school options here in the District of Columbia. By strengthening our education system, the neighborhood will attract and retain families.

St. Patrick's School has a proven track record of providing excellent education in a caring and generous environment. The school's leadership is outstanding and committed to maintaining their tremendous benefit to the neighborhood.

Your job of balancing the needs of differing view points is made much easier by the strict set of conditions that St. Patrick's has offered. These conditions are designed in direct response to the concerns of citizens and will avoid any negative impacts on the neighborhood.

A decision in favor of a good and thoughtful neighborhood citizen that provides a critical family resource while improving life in the District should be carefully considered. We urge you to approve St. Patrick's application.

Respectfully,

Mark and Read Van de Water

BZA
Case No. 16852
Exhibit No. 95
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16852
EXHIBIT NO.95