Ann Tonjes
5163 Fulton Street NW
Washington, DC 20016

August 19, 2002

D.C. Office of Zoning
2002 AUG 22 PM 3:17

Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street NW, 2nd floor
Washington, DC 20001

16915

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board:

I am writing in support of the application of Barbara Allan and Christine Lonergan for a special exemption to operate the child development center at 2828 Hurst Terrace.

I have been a resident of the Palisades community for over 20 years. Many children of families who live on Fulton Street have attended the center over the years and benefitted from the high quality of early childhood education there. Now our neighborhood is again filled with families with young children who would similarly benefit from all the school has to offer. It is my great hope that they will be able to do so.

I was distressed to learn that a few neighbors have objected to the special exemption application for Barbara's Montessori School. It has been a thriving pre-school program for the past 18 years. There is no history of previous opposition from the community. The school already receives more than twice the applications that can be filled. With her Master's in Elementary Education and her experience as a Key School teacher for ten years, Christine Lonergan would appear to be an ideal choice to continue serving the community after Barbara retires in the next two to three years.

Concerns expressed about parking by Hurst Terrace residents should subside once construction at Key School is completed next month and the entrance moved from Hurst Terrace to Eskridge Terrace. In addition, the pre-school has made special efforts to address neighborhood concerns by placing "no parking" cones in front of the school for parents to pick up and drop off their children and advising parents to limit the number of cars in the carpool line.

This child development center is a major service to the entire community and I am hopeful this will be the primary consideration when the Board of Zoning Adjustment considers the exemption application for Barbara's Montessori School.

Sincerely,

Ann Tonjes

Ann Tonjes

cc: Barbara Allen

BZA
Case No. 16915
Exhibit No. 34

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16915
EXHIBIT NO.34