August 23, 2002

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

Re: BZA Application No. 16915
Barbara Schriever Allan - 2828 Hurst Terrace, NW

Dear Mr. Griffis and Members of the Board,

We are writing to support Barbara Allan's application to continue operation of Barbara's Montessori School located at 2828 Hurst Terrace in northwest Washington, DC. It has come to our attention that, due to recent traffic congestion on Hurst Terrace, that opposition has arisen contesting the renewal of her license. As parents of both a Barbara's Montessori alumnae(now a second grader at Key Elementary School) and a current Barbara's Montessori student we feel we are in a unique position to comment on the situation.

Concurrent with the expansion of Key Elementary School(located across the street from Barbara's Montessori School) congestion on Hurst Terrace, as well as Dana Place and Fulton Street, has increased dramatically. As parents driving children to both schools we have experienced the traffic issues Mrs. Allan's neighbors are concerned with and sympathize with their frustration. However, excepting the fact Mrs. Allan may herself be inconvenienced by the construction traffic, this has *nothing* to do with Barbara's Montessori school.

Drop-off and pick-up at Barbara's Montessori are orderly to a fault. Parents are asked to line up no more than four cars deep alongside a row of orange cones minimizing the impact on the street traffic. To expedite arrivals and departures, parents are asked not to exit their vehicles at any time. Instead teachers, familiar with every type of car in existence, collect and deposit the children as needed. The time frame is limited to no more than fifteen minutes in the morning and fifteen minutes in the afternoon.

As a four year resident of MacArthur Blvd. we have experienced many inconveniences caused by road maintenance and other construction in the area. We recognize the necessity and, in some cases, the luxury of the work being done in our neighborhood as temporary conditions to be endured and then forgotten. To scapegoat Barbara's Montessori for a situation that is both beyond her control and soon to dissipate(completion of Key Elementary is expected by December 2002) does nothing to serve our community. Residents, *including* members of the opposition, have benefitted from this excellent pre-school for the past eighteen years.

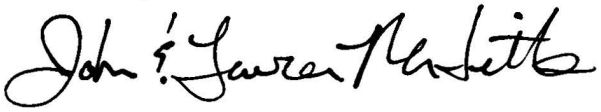
The demand for quality pre-school in the Palisades has grown to the point that Barbara's Montessori had to turn away more than half of it's applicants for the 2002-2003 school year. This further illustrates the fact that Mrs. Allan is providing a service not only valued but needed in the community. Her application for renewal does not request longer hours or increased enrollment.

BZA
Case No. 16915
Exhibit No. 35

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16915
EXHIBIT NO.35

Only that Christine Lonergan, a well respected Key School teacher, be added to the application so, in the event of Mrs. Allan's retirement, the school will continue. Voting to renew Barbara's Montessori's application is in the best interest of our community. Please allow these dedicated women to continue preparing our children for the school years ahead.

Sincerely,



John and Lauri Menditto

cc: Barbara Allan