Michelle Mundt
5312 Carolina Place N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

August 16, 2002

Chairman Geoffrey Griffis and Members
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 Fourth Street N.W.
Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 16915 - Application of Barbara Schriever Allan for Special Exception for Barbara's Montessori, 2828 Hurst Terrace

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

As a resident of the Palisades neighborhood for over four years, we love the benefits that living here provides for our young and growing family. One of our only complaints has been the shortage of decent preschools in the area. Last year, I called two of the neighborhood preschools in late November about applying for admission for this fall, only to find out that both programs were already completely full, a year in advance, and had numerous children on the waiting list for my daughter's age group. To avoid that same problem this year, I began calling in August this year about applying for a space in next year's fall class. Imagine my distress to learn that the zoning application of one of those two preschools, Barbara's Montessori, is being opposed by a very small but vocal group of neighbors. Shutting down Barbara's Montessori will only exacerbate the existing shortage of decent preschools in our neighborhood.

I understand that Barbara's application for a special exception is on the agenda for the Board of Zoning Adjustment's September 24 public hearing. Our children are the future of our neighborhood and our city. We need to be able to educate them close to home. Please approve Barbara's application for a special exception so that she can continue to operate her preschool and educate the next generation of Palisades residents.

Sincerely Yours,

Michelle M. Mundt

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cc: Barbara Schreiver Allen

BZA
Case No. 16915
Exhibit No. 39

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16915
EXHIBIT NO.39