August 26, 2002

John Finney, Chairman
ANC 3D
P.O. Box 40846
Palisades Station
Washington, DC 20016

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

Dear Chairman Finney and ANC Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of Barbara Allan's Montessori School. I am a recent addition to Ms. Allan's neighborhood, having moved into my home around the corner from her in February 2002. Though I have lived here only six months, I feel it is important that I share with you my feelings on the conflict surrounding her application to continue operation of her pre-school program.

I strongly support the approval of Ms. Allan's application. I must say I am somewhat incredulous that neighbors would oppose the continuation of her laudable commitment to the children of this community. I don't have children myself, but I think it's pretty clear that there is a desperate need for quality pre-school programs in this country...especially in Washington, DC. I know that finding first-rate pre-school programs has always been a major concern for colleagues of mine with young children.

Parents in this community have been fortunate for many years to have a proven, quality child development center where they can confidently send their children. It would be so unfortunate to take this resource away. Traffic problems on Hurst Terrace, which I understand have contributed to negative reactions to the school by several neighbors, will shortly be resolved as work at Key School winds down. Please don't let something like temporary traffic disruptions influence the future of Barbara Allan's Montessori School. Far too many children in this city don't have the opportunity for quality early childhood education. When we find an institution that offers such a service to the community, we should fight for its existence, not consider its demise. Please approve a continuation of a special exception for Barbara Allan's school.

Sincerely,

John C. Waters
5177 Fulton St., NW
Washington, DC 20016

BZA
Case No. 16915
Exhibit No. 54

cc: Geoffrey Griffis ✓

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16915
EXHIBIT NO.54