September 2, 2002

Board of Zoning Adjustment
Chairman Geoffry Griffis
441 4th Street, Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

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

Dear Chairman Griffis and Members of the Board,

My daughter Claudia attended Barbara's Montessori for two years and my daughter Fiona is starting her second year there. They absolutely love the school as do their father and I. Until last summer we lived a block from the school on Dana Place.

When Barbara told me last year that neighbors were opposing the renewal of the school's permit I was shocked and saddened. As a real estate agent, I am aware of the Palisades and all it has to offer children. This includes such things as a terrific park, sidewalks, and most importantly, pre-school and public school excellence. When we moved to the area we had no children but were extremely interested in an area that provided many opportunities for children. We were aware of Barbara's Montessori and it's proximity to our home prior to purchasing. In fact, it was a definite selling point. I would even go so far as to say we felt it would greatly help the resale value in the future.

The entire staff of Barbara's has made a strong, and I feel successful effort to move along what little traffic is created by the school, keeping the flow steady. To compound traffic problems on this street, in the past year Key School (across the street) underwent major renovations.

Not only do I believe that Barbara's Montessori should receive the much deserved renewal, I strongly believe that these schools are to few for the growing number of families moving into the District and if we are going to continue to grow this beautiful city we need to encourage, not discourage, child development centers such as Barbara's. I support the institution's transfer to Christine Lonergan and am confident that she will continue to respect the neighbors and provide an excellent, much needed pre-school environment for the Palisades community.

Thank you for your time and consideration for Barbara's Montessori.

Sincerely,

Joan McCarrick Henry

BZA
Case No. 16915
Exhibit No. 77

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16915
EXHIBIT NO.77