Hugh H. Trout, III
4124 Jenifer Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20015

December 4, 2002

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia

Re: BZA Application 16944

Dear Sir:

I am writing regarding Georgetown Day School's (GDS) zoning application to increase modestly the number of students and faculty at their high school location on Davenport Ave. NW. I write as a neighbor for the past nine years as well as a parent of two children who have attended GDS, one was graduated from the high school four years ago and the other is a current junior.

From my perspective as a parent, GDS has been a spectacular institution. While no high school could possibly be free of all disciplinary problems, GDS seems remarkably balanced. The students like and respect each other and, perhaps more importantly, they like themselves. As a single parent with sole custody of my children, I have made it a point to be acutely aware of my children's activities and of the behavior of their friends. The GDS friends have been markedly diverse in many ways but all share a commitment to public service and seem cognizant of the ramifications of social issues to an extent not normally seen in children their age. In my view, GDS does a remarkable job in nurturing children to become mature, responsible citizens.

As a neighbor, while I am not precisely next-door, GDS has instituted a number of measures to address the concerns of some regarding parking. I know my son has been informed that he is not to park my car near the school during school hours, despite the presence of a zone 3 sticker. This admonition was issued to my son by officials from GDS in unambiguous language with clearly expressed penalties for failure to comply. He rigidly adheres to this policy as do his friends who are in a similar circumstance. At a recent ANC meeting, one of the near neighbors of GDS, acknowledged that the parking situation, as a result of changes GDS has made, has returned to the way it was in 1985 when it was easy to find a place to park.

At the same ANC meeting, one vocal neighbor complained bitterly of the behavior of some of the students around her house. When I questioned my son, who is well liked and quite active at the school, about this he laughed and said that he was well aware of the off campus behavior of the GDS students and that the GDS students have not been involved during or after school hours in the type of behavior described. Moreover, based on the community service records of both my children and their friends, GDS has been one of the models for the city.

In sum, GDS has been, and undoubtedly will continue to be, a superb neighbor and community asset. I unreservedly and with considerable enthusiasm support their zoning application. If you have any questions I would be pleased to address them by phone, letter or in person.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh H. Trout III

Hugh H. Trout, III, M.D.

BZA
Case No. 16944
Exhibit No. 41

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16944
EXHIBIT NO.41