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2424 Wyoming Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20008

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

Dear Mr. Griffis,

My child attends NCRC and I am writing in support of NCRC's improvement project.

I am familiar with the proposed plans for the addition to main building and new building and believe that the design is in keeping with the historic character of the neighborhood. The new building is designed to appear residential and is similar in height and density to the other buildings in the neighborhood. The architect has done a wonderful job of accommodating both the school's needs and the neighbors' concerns.

We chose to send our child to NCRC because we believe in the school's mission, and we see every day how the school tries to fulfill that mission. It is a school that believes strongly in doing the best it can for each child, and it also brings together a unique mix of families from different racial and socio-economic backgrounds, as well as some children with special needs. NCRC's success at integrating these children is very unusual and we are grateful that our children can experience the school.

We have been very impressed with NCRC's plans for improving the current facility. Anyone who has spent time there can see the need for more space. There is no place to meet privately with staff members and the only indoor place where the children can work on their gross motor skills is a relatively small room that has glass doors taking up one wall, and library shelves around all the rest of the walls. When you get sixteen four-year-olds in there, throwing balls, hopping, and running, it is clear that the program needs more space. Lastly, since there are at least two children with special needs in each classroom, I feel strongly that reducing the numbers of children in each class makes sense. In order to accomplish this and reduce the size of the current population, the school proposes adding two new classrooms. I think these new classrooms will be extremely beneficial to the program and not simply because they will allow a reduction of the current class sizes. Having these two new classrooms, which

BZA
Case No. 16970
Exhibit No. 47

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16970
EXHIBIT NO.47

are slated to be full-day programs – one for older children and one for younger children – will also offer much more flexibility for working parents who often prefer a longer day for their children.

NCRC has worked very hard to respond to neighborhood concerns. After receiving input at more than a dozen neighborhood meetings, the school has significantly cut back the size of the proposed building. The school has already begun to make changes in its traffic management, and it is clear that the school is working very hard to ensure that there will be no adverse effect from the drop off or pick up of children.

My husband and I firmly support the school and hope you also will support its efforts.

Sincerely,

