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Chairman Geoffrey Griffis
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210-S
Washington, DC 20001
re: case # 17022

Dear Chairman Griffis:

Twenty-five years ago I moved onto the 2900 block of Upton Street, NW, off of Connecticut Avenue. At that time there was no metro stop, no Intelsat, no "U" in UDC. But there was a vibrant, exciting high school on the block, the Edmund Burke School. Through the years since, hair styles may have changed, bell bottoms may have gone and come back again, but one thing has remained constant. Everyday scores of children come into the neighborhood to learn and to grow, to be taught the fundamentals of citizenship and as well as the specifics of geometry or physics. They are being prepared to take their place as the leaders, technicians, artists, scientists and dreamers of tomorrow. What greater contribution to today or investment in tomorrow can a community make?

There was another Upton Street resident back then who also made a big impression -- he became my husband. Even though we eventually moved away, we both felt that our experiences as neighbors of Burke were so positive and we were so impressed by the education offered there that we have sent two of our children to Burke as students. Our daughter graduated Burke and went on to Brown University. Our son is completing 9th grade at Burke now.

I am writing to you as a former resident of the community and as a Burke parent to ask your support of the Edmund Burke School's application to expand its facilities that is now scheduled to be heard by the BZA on July 15.

I know that the community has been concerned about the traffic congestion generated by the school. Burke has made many changes over the past year to be responsive to the concerns of the DDOT, the ANC and the school's neighbors that resulted in the rejection of Burke's application last year by the BZA. A traffic management plan is already in place and has dramatically decreased traffic volume and congestion on Upton Street. New compliance and accountability measures are reflected in the school's new submission to the BZA. Burke's new building and traffic plans will further reduce traffic congestion in the neighborhood. When I drop my son off in the morning, we do not travel on neighborhood residential streets, but rather use the designated Burke drop-off sites. In the afternoons he uses public transportation. This system works well for our family. I, like other Burke parents, am committed to upholding present and future plans.

Burke has worked hard to be a good neighbor and a useful community resource. The school's expansion plans are modest, reasonable and responsive to the neighborhood. It plans no high rise apartment buildings, embassies, universities, corporate compounds or retail outlets. This valuable city institution simply wants to continue to provide quality educational services to our children. In order to do so, it must be able to renovate and modernize its facilities. Not only will the new building enable Burke to fulfill its educational mission, but it will prove a valuable asset to the community.

Please support Edmund Burke School's application currently before the BZA. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Ann C. Scheiner

BZA
Case No. 17022
Exhibit No. 33

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17022
EXHIBIT NO. 33