ACON

July 8, 2003

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

Dear Mr. Griffis and Members of the BZA:

I am writing in support of Case # 17022--- Edmund Burke School's application to expand its facilities that is to be heard by the BZA on July 15, 2003. I have run a business in the District for the last 20 years and my daughter is a student at Edmund Burke.

In recent years, many schools in the District have had great difficulty accommodating the increasing demands for space brought out by expanding school enrollment. In my experience, the BZA has not always been supportive of such schools. I hope this application will be different.

Edmund Burke is a good citizen of the District of Columbia. My daughter, along with others in last year's 7th grade class, regularly participated in a District program that delivers meals to District residents afflicted with HIV. Burke supports also a generous scholarship program for low income district residents which is one reason among many Burke boasts such a diverse student body.

In addition, Burke has made many changes over the past year to be responsive to the concerns of the DDOT, and the school's neighbors that resulted in the rejection of Burke's application last year by the BZA.

Our traffic plans will actually reduce congestion in the neighborhood and there are strong enforcement provisions in it. The new proposed building and parking will alleviate traffic even more. Burke is committed also to reduce enrollment growth and to work with our neighbors in meeting all these goals.

Burke has been a valuable District institution for over 30 years. Burke's expansion plans are modest, reasonable and responsive to the neighborhood. I hope the BAZ will support Edmund Burke School's application #17022.

Sincerely yours,

Bernie

Bernard Aronson
Managing Partner

BZA
Case No. 17022
Exhibit No. 70

ACON INVESTMENTS LLC
1133 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON DC 20036
TELEPHONE 202.454.1100 FACSIMILE 202.454.1101

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17022
EXHIBIT NO. 70