July 11, 2003

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

Reference: Case No. 17022

Dear Chairman Griffis:

I am writing in support of Edmund Burke School's application to expand its facilities that is to be heard by the BZA on July 15, 2003.

The Edmund Burke community has worked hard this past year to meet the requests of the ANC and the BZA to change their traffic plans and their building design. We parents have tried to address the neighbors' concerns by adhering strictly to the new rules regarding the dropoff and pickup of our children. I personally drop my daughter at the Kiss and Ride on Connecticut Avenue every morning. It makes my commute faster as well as keeping my car off Upton Street. The architects and other designers have made changes to the plans to further improve traffic flow involving the school.

However, at the public ANC meeting in June, I got the impression that some of the neighbors in opposition to Burke's expansion plans have focused on Burke as the source of all the difficulties that all urban living entails. They appeared to acknowledge none of the changes that Burke has put into effect to be a good neighbor. There are other schools and large institutions on or near Upton Street. There are apartment buildings, embassies, offices and retail establishments in the area. Edmund Burke School is probably working harder than any other institution in the area to meet the needs of their neighbors. In addition, Burke is the kind of school that encourages good citizenship and involvement in community affairs in a way to enrich the city, both now and in the future.

Some of the neighbors testified in favor of Burke. I do not know whether or not those favorable voices were reported to you, or whether you just heard that the neighbors are united against the school. I hope that you look at what Burke has done so far to be responsive to the neighborhood, and at their careful, reasonable, and modest plans for the future.

I hope you then decide to support Edmund Burke School's application #17022.

Very sincerely,

Sara Krulwich

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BZA
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Exhibit No. 90

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EXHIBIT NO. 90