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July 14, 2003

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

D.C. BOARD OF ZONING
2003 JUL 15 AM 11:30

Re: Case #: 17022

Dear Chairman Griffis:

I am contacting you as a parent and Board member of the Edmund Burke school. I am also contacting you as one of the volunteers who assisted the school in monitoring traffic since March. (For anyone who drove by, I am the parent with the Corgi who was at the Howard Law School driveway and the Van Ness/Upton alley.) As a volunteer I had the opportunity to observe the traffic first hand several mornings a week for over three months. Here are my key observations:

- The overwhelming majority of Burke parents are complying with the Burke traffic plan. Most mornings there were 1-2 parents who needed to be reminded of the traffic guidelines. Many mornings there were none. I never had to remind more then 6 parents on a given day and this was truly exceptional.

- Once reminded, parents did comply with the traffic plan. I seldom had "repeat offenders".

- The traffic plan has eliminated any back-ups of neighborhood traffic. On all of the mornings that I observed, traffic was able to move without obstruction from Burke drop-offs. Occasionally there would be a momentary delay when a non-Burke car was parking on Upton Street.

- Even under the worst of circumstances traffic moved smoothly. One of the mornings when we had torrential rains, was also the day of the 9th grade science exhibition. I knew many students would be coming with their poster boards. I expected that the combination of the rain and the precious exhibition materials would be likely to cause additional parents to drive their child up to the front of the school. Even on this morning, there were no traffic back ups on Upton Street.

I hope the BZA will conclude, as I have, that the entire Burke community has demonstrated its commitment to responsible traffic controls to the benefit of the neighborhood. This commitment has been shared by the Board, administration, faculty, parents, and students of the school. It is confirmed by the reduction in traffic on Upton Street and throughout the neighborhood.

I encourage you to vote in favor of the proposed expansion of the school so that Burke can continue to be a unique educational institution in the Washington area.

Sincerely,

Virginia Riehl
DC Resident

BZA
Case No. 17022
Exhibit No. 92

Virginia Riehl • 1726 Lamont Street N.W. • Washington D.C. 20010 • (202) 332-6849

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EXHIBIT NO. 92