July 25, 2005

RE: BZA Case #17342 [Application of Aidan Montessori School]
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JANA BELSKY
2824 27TH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20008
202-234-1154

I AM A 20 YEAR RESIDENT OF WOODLEY PARK, LIVING JUST UP THE BLOCK FROM THE AIDAN MONTESSORI SCHOOL. I URGE THE BZA TO DENY AIDAN'S PETITION TO BE ISSUED A CONTINUANCE IN THIS MATTER. WE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO SUPPORT THE APPPLICATION ONLY LEARNED YESTERDAY AT THESE OFFICES,THAT AIDAN HAS REQUESTED A DELAY.

AIDAN HAS BEEN OUT OF COMPLAINCE FOR SEVEN YEARS WITH THE 1995 AGREEMENT IT SIGNED WITH THE ANC AND THE WOODLEY PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AS A CONDITION OF PURCHASING THE BUILDING.

THE SCHOOL WAS LEGALLY BOUND TO COME TO YOU, THE BZA, WITHIN 36 MONTHS OF THE DATE THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED IN JULY 1995, TO REQUEST AN ENROLLMENT CAP OF 180. THAT FIGURE WAS MUTALLY AGREED UPON BY ALL PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT AS A REASONABLE BALANCE BETWEEN THE SCHOOL'S NEED FOR ADEQUATE ENROLLMENT AND THE NEIGHBORS' NEED TO PROTECT AGAINST ADVERSE IMPACTS. WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PRESSED BY COMMUTER, HOTEL, AND CONVENTION TRAFFIC AND HAVE LIMITIED AVAILABLE ON-STREET PARKING. AIDAN CARPOOL LINES, EXACERBATED BY THE INCREASE IN AIDAN'S ENROLLMENT THIS PAST YEAR ABOVE 180 STUDENTS, HAVE MADE 27TH STREET A CLOGGED MESS AT LEAST TWICE A DAY, WITH UNSAFE AND ILLEGAL CONGESTION, AS WELL AS PARKING VIOLATIONS ON THE PART OF AIDAN PARENTS.

THE SCHOOL HAS ATTEMPTED--BUT FAILED MISERABLY, EVEN WITH A PARKING CONTROL OFFICER--TO LIMIT OR CONTROL IT ON OUR VERY NARROW STREET. THE WOODELY PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH OBSERVING, ASSESSING, AND DECIDING ON WHETHER TO APPROVE THE CONTINUATION OF THE EXPANDED ENROLLMENT VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO DENY AIDAN'S REQUEST. EXTENSIVE, WELL DOCUMENTED OBSERVATIONS LED THEM TO CONCLUDE THE SITUATION WAS QUITE UNSAFE. EVEN TOWARD THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, VEHICLES PARKED ILLEGALLY AT THE STOP SIGN AT WOODLEY ROAD, VEHCILES DOUBLE-PARKED HALF-WAY UP THE STREET, AND AIDAN DRIVERS DID NOT FOLLOW THE DESIGNATED CARPOOL ROUTE SPECIFIED IN THEIR OWN PICKUP GUIDELINES.

BZA
Case No. 17342
Exhibit No. 34

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17342
EXHIBIT NO. 34

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WE ON 27TH STREET HAVE SUFFERED THE BRUNT OF THE CONSEQUENCES ~~THE~~ OF MANEUVERINGS AND DELAYS ON AIDAN'S PART INVOLVING THEIR DESIRE FOR, AND ACCEPTANCE OF, MORE THAN THE 180 STUDENT CAP, ALTHOUGH ADJACENT STREETS HAVE ENDURED THEM AS WELL.

I STRONGLY URGE THE BZA TO HEAR THIS CASE TODAY AND GRANT THE ENROLLMENT CAP OF 180.