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D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W., 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20001

November 17, 2005

ATTN: Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman
RE: Support for the Lab School of Washington
BZA Application NO. 17383

Dear Members of the Board:

As a neighbor to The Lab School in the Palisades, the purpose of this letter is to express my strong support for The Lab School's application for a student and faculty/staff increase and to locate additional parking in the public space along Whitehaven Parkway.

The Lab School is a significant resource not only for our immediate community, but for the entire Washington area. Many parents throughout the DC Metropolitan area view it as a godsend for their learning disabled children. Lab is a model for other schools that are devoted to the special and socially-responsible task of educating learning disabled students. In fact, Lab is a recognized pioneer, and likely the leading school in this country for learning disabled students, and thus a resource that this Capital City looks to with great pride. This honorable Board should do whatever it can to encourage The Lab School to further its unique and admirable mission.

The angled parking spaces and sidewalk that The Lab School proposes to construct (at its own expense, I understand) in public space along Whitehaven Parkway will be a benefit to the neighborhood. They will make the roadway more attractive than the encroaching and unruly bramble that currently lines that portion of the Parkway, and will clearly improve safety for pedestrians. I understand that St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School has installed similar angled parking spaces further north on Whitehaven Parkway that have been a boon to that school and caused no objectionable impacts.

I understand that the Lab School, working with the community, has spent well over a year developing its plan, and thus has demonstrated its responsiveness to issues raised by the ANC. The proposed spaces and sidewalk will contribute significantly toward parking capacity and safety in the neighborhood.

I respectfully request that my wholehearted support for this application be accepted into the record of this case. Thank you for your attention.

Very sincerely yours,

Perry Saidman

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 17383
EXHIBIT NO. 45

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District of Columbia

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D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING

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