November 14, 2017

D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment 441 4th Street, N.W., Suite 200S Washington, DC 20001 bzasubmissions@dc.gov

Re: <u>Letter of Support for BZA Case No. 19581 – LAMB PCS at 5000 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW</u>

Dear Members of the Board:

We are residents of the Sixteenth Street Heights neighborhood. We understand that the Latin American Montessori Bilingual (LAMB) Public Charter School would like to move their school to the Kingsbury campus next year. We support this move, including the eventual enrollment of 600 students, because we believe the best use of that space is for it to remain a school.

We support LAMB's request to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA). We understand that this request specifically asks for an exemption to the Sixteenth Street Heights special overlay; an increase of the enrollment cap to 600 students over 6 years, which the building has capacity to hold; and for the eventual construction of a gym on the grounds.

LAMB has worked closely with ANC 4C throughout its community engagement process for this application. LAMB has engaged many residents, West Education Campus, and the ANC to ensure that the school will be an asset to the community and that any harmful impacts will be mitigated. LAMB hosted many community meetings, met with individual neighbors, listened to community concerns, and worked collaboratively with residents to find solutions to their concerns. LAMB has proven to be responsive and committed to being a good neighbor.

We have two children at the school, which is currently divided among three campuses. Children and teachers are shifted on an annual basis based on grade level, with siblings following. We have a strong desire to strengthen the overall community of the school by keeping everyone together. A stronger school community will increase the ability of the school to give back to the community.

Regards,

Stephanie Azar

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