May 3, 2018

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 200S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA No. 19748 -- Acton Academy

Dear Members of the Board of Zoning Adjustment:

On behalf of the Foggy Bottom Association, I write to support Acton Academy in BZA Case No. 19748.

The Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) was incorporated in 1959 to further the civic, cultural, social and economic welfare of the Foggy Bottom/West End community; to preserve and enhance the residential character of the community; and to promote historic preservation in the area.

David Kirby, the cofounder of Acton Academy, reached out to the FBA, shared his plans for Acton, and asked for our guidance in his outreach to neighbors. David presented to our members at FBA's Monthly Meeting on March 27. David has gone door to door – sometimes with other supportive neighbors – to meet those who live close to the site. We appreciate David's diligent and proactive efforts to be a good neighbor and reach out to the FBA and the neighbors near St. Paul's Parish, and to incorporate our feedback.

The FBA is supportive of Acton Academy's plans to open a small Montessori and Elementary school at St. Paul's Parish. We believe it will be beneficial use for St. Paul's Parish. Further, it will attract families to the Foggy Bottom community and retain those who may otherwise leave for a lack of convenient educational options for their children.

I attended the April 18 Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A meeting and voiced my support for the Acton project. Based on the feedback from the neighbors who live near St. Paul's, any potential sounds from children playing in the outdoor area would not be objectionable to them. It is certainly not objectionable to the FBA. The ANC unanimously voted to approve.

Thank you for considering our letter of support for Acton in your decision.

Sincerely,

Marina Streznewski
President