

HACKETTSTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Michael A. Simonetta
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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Robert K. Gratz
Superintendent of Schools

February 28, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter as a strong endorsement for the services provided by EI Associates. In my former capacity as Superintendent of Newton Public Schools, I had the honor and privilege of working with EI Associates. It was through the professional and thorough service that EI Associates provided that Newton Public Schools was able to pass a 13.9 million dollar referendum and deliver a completed project on three different sites within the district near to schedule and under budget. I know that may be hard to believe, but it is true. From the very beginning of project development, EI Associates was a partner in this educational endeavor. The addition to the Merriam Avenue School was not just about mortar and bricks. The addition to the building allowed for a true programmatic redesign of Newton Public Schools. It allowed for fifth grade to be housed in a previous K-4 building, as well as the expansion of a half day kindergarten into a full day kindergarten program. The design allowed for a true flow of the educational program and philosophy.

EI Associates was an active collaborator in this process. The students are achieving phenomenal success in the elementary program at Newton Public Schools and much of it can be attributed to the design and implementation by EI Associates.

The construction was not without its hitches and bumps in the road. Significant was a problem with the contractor. Yet, EI's documentation allowed for the contractor to be held to task to complete the work properly and actually return money back to the district.

I cannot say enough about the professional services provided by EI Associates and I would be remiss if I did not specifically note that Michael J. Wozny was outstanding. Michael was attentive, responsive, and was dogged in his determination to complete the project to our expectations. It is without any hesitation that I would recommend EI Associates for their architectural, engineering and construction services. Please feel free to contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,



Robert K. Gratz
Superintendent of Schools

RKG/ckd

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Home of the Tigers

