

BURT, HILL

October 6, 2010

Mr. Michael Kozy
29 Emerson Avenue
Crafton, PA 15205

Dear Mr. Kozy:

It was a pleasure to speak with you this afternoon about the feasibility study process and the educational planning and design services. A feasibility study is a document that provides your school a tool to make informed decisions on the future of your school facilities. Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has a format that must be followed as a requirement prior to beginning a reimbursable project. This format can be found on PDE's website at:
http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/reimbursable_projects.

Our job, as educational facility planners, is to generate options that will meet the District's educational, community, and financial goals. The options often include renovations, new construction, or a mixture of both. Each option should include an analysis of the costs, reimbursement, and benefits so that the school board can make the decision as to which option is best for your community.

You referenced our Mt. Lebanon School District Renovation projects that are highlighted in the PSBA "Renovate or Replace" booklet. Mt. Lebanon chose to renovate their existing elementary schools because the renovations were able to meet their educational, community, and financial goals. Renovation options will generally be less expensive, but may not meet all of the educational goals. Renovation projects also lend themselves to combine state reimbursement with Act 77 (guaranteed energy savings) funding. This will reduce the construction cost of a project and reduce the "first cost" burden to the taxpayer.

I understand that you are concerned about the project currently being considered at Carlynton School District. I am not familiar with the District's facilities, but would certainly like to have the opportunity to submit a proposal for educational planning and design services. Fees for these services are many times given as a percentage of construction cost, but please keep in mind that they must also be tied to a scope of services that is required. Burt Hill is a full-service, multi-disciplinary design firm that has focused on educational facilities since 1936. We have a very efficient process that allows us to complete these types of services for a very competitive fee.

Please share this information with your school board, and we look forward to the opportunity to further discuss our credentials with you.

Sincerely,

BURT HILL



Robert M. Pillar, AIA
Principal

Direct Dial: 724.477.1212

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