

To: Sensible Solution <sensiblesolution@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2007 4:31:23 PM
Subject: Re: Fw: CDT School building article

I appreciate your efforts to follow up. My comments were only on the *process* and not the building itself. At the risk of sounding contradictory, when it comes to educational facilities, I believe the research consistently shows that small is better than big. One last observation: I consult with an architectural firm that specializes in school buildings. They take an approach they have trade marked as "Listen, Lead, Perform". In the listening stage, they take care in understanding the educational program and gathering data through surveys. Before they lead and perform- they verify what is important in the program. Programmatic initiatives always drive the design of the building when working with them. There is no argument on where the community stands: it is there for all to see in the survey data.

Although Kimball has been out of the line of fire- at least as far as I know- I believe they are culpable and did a lousy job "Listening" before they started to lead and perform. The district wouldn't be in this mess if they had used XXXX

I don't have a need to discuss more - unless you would like to. I just hope the district comes through this mess with a great facility and that the feuding comes to an end. Thank you.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Sensible Solution <sensiblesolution@yahoo.com>
To: XXXX
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2007 3:34:38 PM
Subject: Re: CDT School building article

XXX,

I would suggest you read the report and judge for yourself. We appreciate the work of the board and know that they are volunteers. The current board had an option to do a referendum on this project and chose the hearing instead. They asked for comments on the project and 74% came back against the proposed plan. Many have argued that this data is not valid but we can only use the data we have (from the board's own analysis...not ours). We would have known where the community stood with 99% accuracy if we had taken a referendum approach. None of the board members ran on a platform that said they were going to build a large one building school at \$100M. As with all politics, you can say one thing and do whatever you want once you are elected. This is especially true in PA as no accountability exists except for an election (unlike other states). I think we will see a form of a referendum in the spring as five board seats are open.

Our team is very similar to a CAC, as we have members from diverse backgrounds (PhD, MBA, Construction, Architecture, etc.). As the CDT pointed out today in the blog, we are much more open than the CACs (http://blogs.centredaily.com/happy_valley/).

This is America and everyone is entitled to have and express an opinion....glad to see that you are exercising that right!

Best Wishes!

----- Original Message -----

To: sensiblesolution@yahoo.com

Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2007 7:59:12 AM

Subject: CDT School building article

First, *community support* is earned by virtue of being elected. Second, school directors are *volunteers* as well. Having been one, I know they work hard with no compensation, little or no thanks, and sometimes are the objects of scorn and abuse.

Therefore, my view is that the elected board trumps your group when it comes to both *community support* and serving as *volunteers*.

Therefore, my question is "What are your credentials?"

Thank you.