



NINE MILE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT 325/179

Board of Directors

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Brian L. Talbot, Superintendent

December 11, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my sincere privilege to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of the School District, School Board and the two elementary building principals regarding the district's most recent work with Leone & Keeble, Inc. As the GC/CM, Leone & Keeble played the lead role in the simultaneous construction projects of Lake Spokane Elementary and Nine Mile Falls Elementary. Both projects were completed remarkably ahead of schedule and under budget.

I came to the Nine Mile Falls School District in July of 2008, well into the design phase and just prior to ground breaking. Upon my arrival, Tom Mercer, Construction Project Manager and Woody Sams, Nine Mile Project Superintendent took the time necessary to facilitate my understanding of the projects ensuring a smooth transition. Tom and Woody met with District officials regularly throughout the multiple phases of construction. When issues arose that had a potential impact on staff and/or students, these gentlemen made themselves available at a moment's notice to share information, answer questions, and alleviate concerns. These two men and their entire crews were exceptionally responsive and accommodating to the fact that we were conducting school throughout the construction endeavor. They always went above and beyond the call of duty to provide normalcy in an abnormal year.

Case in point was the unprecedented snow fall that occurred during the winter of 2009. After consulting with a structural engineer, we were advised to remove sections of snow from the middle school roof before allowing students and staff in the building. The Leone & Keeble crews from both elementary school sites assisted us with this lofty task. Mind you, this was the middle school, which was not part of the occurring construction. When Leone & Keeble learned of our predicament and need of manpower, they were there without being asked. Without their assistance, we would have had to continue to cancel school until the work was completed some days later.

Aside from the impromptu "as-needed" meetings, we also held bi-weekly meetings with district and building administration, the architect, the district's project manager, Tom, and Woody. These regularly scheduled and attended meetings were extremely helpful in vetting out issues and problems. These meetings were not gripe sessions; they were proactive, problem-solving opportunities.

In the Nine Mile Falls School District

... each student will succeed ... effective instruction is paramount ... quality leadership matters ... reflection improves our practice
... we are each other's best resource ... positive relationships are foundational to our success.

We continue to act in a way that matches our beliefs.

From the very beginning, it was obvious to me that Leone & Keeble focused on both the bottom line and on providing our community with two top-notch learning facilities. The end result is that we have two beautiful, detail-oriented schools that will provide for educational excellence for many years to come. On behalf of the school board and community, I whole-heartedly recommend Leone & Keeble for any upcoming project that you might have.

Sincerely,



Brian L. Talbott
Superintendent

BLT/kaf