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GURNEE SCHOOL DISTRICT 56

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April 6, 2011

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**BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT 64**

Dr. Phillip Bender
Park Ridge CCSD 64
164 S. Prospect Avenue
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Dear Dr. Bender:

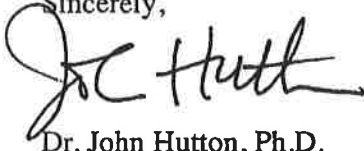
Mr. Mike Nichols and I enjoyed talking with you on April 5, 2011, and commend you on doing your homework prior to making a recommendation to your Board of Education. It is one thing to make a token phone call and is quite a different thing to make a road trip for a face-to-face conversation. This act should solidify the outstanding choice your Board made in selecting you as their superintendent.

As you move forward with your recommendation, I wanted to make sure that I stated in writing the same things that I said to you on April 5th and hope this communiqué will assist your Board in their deliberations. I have worked with Fanning/Howey for nearly twenty years in Valparaiso and in Gurnee. My predecessor, Dr. Ben Martindale recommended Fanning/Howey to the Gurnee School District 56 Board of Education prior to my arrival in the District. From my past work with them, I could not have been more pleased to have learned that I would have another opportunity to work with Fanning/Howey.

We have done a number of smaller projects with Fanning/Howey in Gurnee (air conditioning at O'Plaine School, boiler burner upgrade at three schools, sprinkler system repair, and wood trusses inspection) over the last four years. In November of 2010, the Board was fortunate enough to pass a referendum for \$28.5 million. With that, Fanning/Howey is working with the Board to build a new school and remodel an exiting school. I want to say in the clearest manner possible that we could not be more pleased with the services we have received from the firm and have asked my Board President to co-sign this letter to express her sentiments on behalf of the Board. The only difference that I have observed between Fanning/Howey, when I worked with them in Valparaiso and now, is that they are even better now than they were twenty years ago. I strongly recommend them to your Board as your architect of record.

Please feel free to extend an invitation to your Board to contact me if they need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JCHutton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Dr. John Hutton, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi May". The signature is cursive and elegant, with the first letters of both names being capitalized.

Mrs. Heidi May
President, Board of Education

cc: Mr. Mike Nichols
Mrs. Heidi May