



COPPELL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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October 5, 2010

Penny Gromatzky, President
Libra-Tech Corporation
525 Hickory Hill Road
Argyle, TX 76225

Letter of Recommendation for Libra- Tech:

In May 2009, the taxpayers of Coppell, Texas approved a Bond Election that provided a five-year funding allocation for the Coppell Independent School District (CISD)'s campus libraries. A portion of that allocation was to purchase furniture and equipment to renovate and refurbish our outdated campus libraries. For the next year, the district's librarians studied, visited, and learned about what a 21st century school library should look like and how it should be furnished. We also interviewed library planning consultants and library furniture firms.

In April 2010 while in the exhibit area of the Texas Library Association, a group of us learned about Libra- Tech when we met Penny Gromatzky and Kim Tourangeau. Impressed with their lines of furniture, their experience and professionalism, and visits to two of their libraries, our district hired Libra-Tech as our designer and furniture vendor.

The project would be to plan, design, select, order and install furniture in three middle and nine elementary schools by start of school in August 2010. From the get-go, Penny, Kim, and all the Libra- Tech folks were committed to our projects and worked extra hours to meet our deadline and budget. Each library had individual needs, and they enthusiastically assisted every librarian with setting their priorities, making their choices, blending existing furniture with new, and recommending fabric and paint. At the fabric selection meeting, one librarian said, "this is the most fun I've ever had in my five years as a librarian!" After installation was complete, another librarian remarked, "before, our libraries looked insignificant, now we look important to our school." Indeed, we do, and 21st century, too.

Our students, faculty, and parents are constantly praising the new look and functionality of the libraries. Kindergartners fight to sit on our new Blob chairs, middle schoolers hang out on the Isola settees, and overall use of our libraries has increased dramatically. Because of the mobility of the tables and chairs, we can rearrange seating quickly and efficiently to accommodate various group sizes. Plans are in the works to purchase new service desks from Libra- Tech for the schools who did not receive them with this bond allocation.

At every turn of the project, Penny, Kim, Lisette, Mary, Bubba, and everyone at Libra-tech were there to counsel, assist, solve problems, and give their best above and beyond expectation. Without reservation, I would highly recommend any library entity hire Libra- Tech, CISD did, and it was definitely the right decision!

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