

**HOMER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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**Douglas B. Larison**  
**Superintendent**

October 13, 2005

Peter S. Osborne, RLA  
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Syracuse, NY 13204

To Whom It May Concern:

The Homer Central School District has recently completed a track/athletic field renovation using the architectural services provided by Appel Osborne. The two and a half million dollar renovation replaced an old track and grass field with a new synthetic track with artificial playing surface. The project had difficult design issues, a tight budget and construction concerns. All of the aspects were handled with great professionalism and skill by our architects.

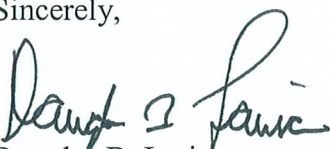
Homer's track was placed in a small space. A good deal of creative design was necessary to create a multiuse field for soccer, football and lacrosse, and place a full track around it. The Appel Osborne design team always brought creative solutions for the district to consider. No issue was too big for their team to work through.

As our entire package was developed, the price of steel and asphalt products increased significantly. Once again Appel Osborne was there with creative solutions for alternates, which would protect our base bids. Public schools cannot spend more than our voter authorization. That fact creates pressure on an architectural firm to deliver a design that is in or below budget.

The summer of 2005 saw the actual construction of our facility. Throughout construction Appel Osborne had staff on site as often as we needed to resolve, or clarify any and all issues of constructability. Their can do attitude clearly made their work stand out. Their goal oriented approach to solving problems was very refreshing.

If Homer Central Schools does any significant exterior landscaping, I will hire Appel Osborne Landscape Architecture firm, without question. The quality and commitment which they bring to their jobs is unmatched by any firm that I know. Their can do attitude place them high above many of their competitors.

Sincerely,



Douglas B. Larison  
Superintendent of Schools