



FEATURED PROJECT



INSIDE

- Harding Elementary School 1
- Harding Elementary School 2
- IN Education 3
School Security Survey
- IN The Spotlight 3
Melissa Landis
20 Year Anniversary
- IN The Works 4
Cornwall-Lebanon
Athletic Building

HARDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*If these walls could talk,
imagine what they could teach!*

In an era when grand old buildings are often lost to demolition, the Lebanon School District chooses to retain the character of significant buildings by upgrading them to become compatible with today's educational and safety standards. This Administration and School Board should be congratulated for its approach in maintaining structurally and historically noteworthy buildings throughout their district.

Harding Elementary School, located in the heart of Lebanon, Pennsylvania is a wonderful historic structure that began life nearly one hundred years ago as the new Lebanon High School. Over the years it has served as a junior high school and for the last 30 years as an elementary school.

One of the challenges of the Harding Elementary School project was to upgrade the entire infrastructure and exterior façade in an urban setting that allowed for very little open construction staging areas. This was accomplished by reconfiguring a very large playground and using the extra space as the staging area during construction. That space will ultimately be converted into the very first parking lot Harding Elementary employees have ever had, while maintaining the newly refurbished playground.

Before the renovations students needed to cross the street to school when being dropped off by their parents. As a result of the new parking lot design, a student drop off "turning lane" will provide a much safer arrival. Another priority for school safety was designing the main entrance with a security system using visual monitoring and double vestibule doors with a "buzz in" feature. When completed, the school will also be entirely handicap accessible via a new elevator, have a new entrance, an infill addition, and upgraded mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems.



*New inscription above entrance to
Harding Elementary School*

Harding Elementary School (Cont'd)

The design team focused on accomplishing this aggressive program with the sensitivity required in paying respect to a grand old building. The new insulated windows were designed to replicate the original window patterns from a hundred years ago; and the refurbished façade remains true to its original design.

This project is scheduled for completion in August 2008. Lobar, Inc. of Dillsburg as the general contractor and Fairchild Services of Reading as the construction manager round out the team in allowing "these walls to talk" for many years to come!



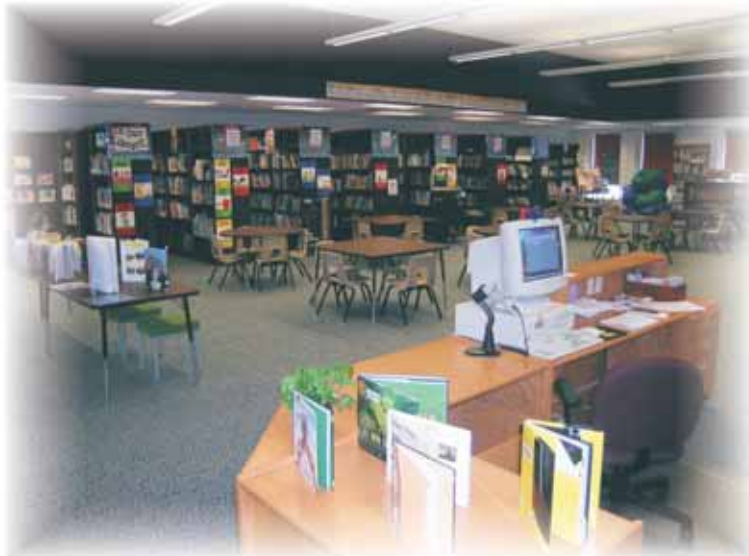
One of several inscriptions on the exterior of Harding Elementary School



Chestnut Street facade



Renovated girl's restroom with handwash area in full view allowing for greater teacher supervision



Newly renovated library

**High Performance
Green Schools**

Want to learn more?

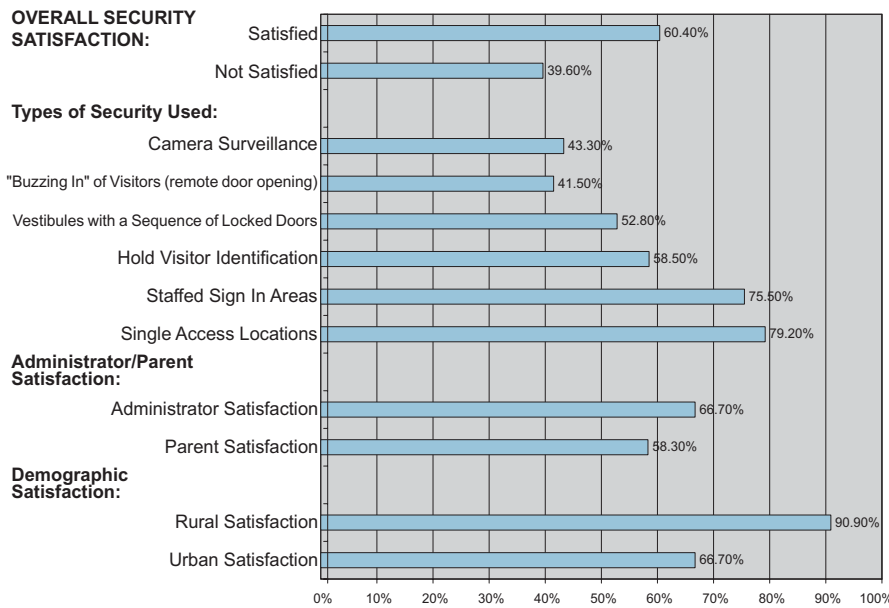
- www.epa.gov/schools/
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Results of the Beers & Hoffman SCHOOL SECURITY SURVEY

While many school districts have responded to improve security in their schools, the perception of children's safety in today's K-12 system can still be improved according to a December 2006 survey compiled by **Beers & Hoffman**.

The following is a summary of interesting results of the survey that was distributed to school administrators, parents, and other residents throughout Pennsylvania.



Buildings that incorporate *police (or security)* and remote control of door opening/locking by 'buzzing in' in the building had a much higher percentage of satisfied respondents.

Other forms of security being used by respondents include ID swipe cards, use of code words, safe school teams and intruder drills. Recurring comments were also made regarding enforcement and adherence to the existing school security policies.

We would like thank everyone who took the time to complete our survey. The results of this survey can now be used to assist school districts in determining the features that provide the most satisfaction for building security among parents and administrators.

IN The Spotlight

Melissa Landis Providing 20 Years of "Down the Line" Service



1987 - A first class stamp costs \$.22; a gallon of regular gas costs \$.95; The Cosby Show, Cheers and The Golden Girls rule the airwaves; Pat Cash & Martina Navratilova are Wimbledon Singles Tennis Champions. Clearly some things have changed over the years but Melissa Landis, Business Manager at Beers & Hoffman, has maintained her ability to *serve aces* in every aspect of her job for the past **two decades!**

Until Melissa's arrival all the accounting was done by Elaine Beers, wife of firm principal Bob Beers. When Melissa came on board, she brought along vast knowledge of the Harper & Shuman MCFMS (now Deltek) architectural/engineering accounting software which helped streamline business office operations. Melissa also *hits a winner* for the Beers & Hoffman management team with her remarkable memory and strong attention to detail.

3

Over these past 20 years Melissa's responsibilities have grown. Her creative mind brings these newsletters to life, along with a number of marketing pieces throughout the year. Her technical mind provides in-house IT support and legal contract review. Her kind and thoughtful personality offers loads of encouragement to the staff, as well as giving her the desire to be involved in numerous community activities in the Lititz area.

In her spare time you're likely to find Melissa sending a *crushing topspin* over a tennis net somewhere, anywhere. Her love of the game has led her to participate in a number of competitive USTA leagues in the Middle States Section. She lives in Lititz with her husband Dwight and their son. Their daughter is a third year college student in Philadelphia.

Melissa's *follow through* on the tennis court carries over to her career as well. So if you need someone to give you the *advantage* in administrative services at Beers & Hoffman, she's the one to serve up *match point* for you!



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4

INThe Works



Catch the *Falcon Spirit* at the Brand New CORNWALL-LEBANON ATHLETIC BUILDING

Sports fans attending events at the Cedar Crest High School stadium next spring will be pleasantly surprised! Cornwall-Lebanon School District has broken ground for their brand new 10,022 square foot athletic building that will house home team and visiting team locker rooms, along with public restroom facilities. Watch for this building to be completed in early 2008.



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