



May 16, 2017

Mr. Phillip Francis  
Director of Operations  
Livonia Public Schools  
15125 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154

RE: Recommendation for Data Center Move

Dear Mr. Francis:

This letter is intended to detail Plante Moran CRESA's (PMC) recommendation that Livonia Public Schools proceed with a project to move the District's data center. This project has been identified by LPS technology team, PMC, and Barton Malow Technology as a critical priority to ensure consistent technology operations in the future, and is anticipated to be funded via the technology bond budget utilizing bid savings realized on past projects. The anticipated budget for this project is approximately **\$330,000**.

#### **Background**

The current data center at LPS resides in the basement of the central administration building, a location that is not ideal for a facility of this nature for a number of reasons. The primary challenge with the current location is based on flood risk with critical district technology infrastructure being housed below grade. Additionally, the current data center has a large water line running through the room, compounding this risk to IT equipment from water damage. Also considered were the increased efficiencies in the current environment, which have led to the requirement for less equipment. This has led to the ability to operate a data center with a smaller physical footprint than was previously required, which will result in decreased utility costs for the District.

Based on the need for a more suitable facility, discovery activities were conducted by Plante Moran, with District assistance, to identify possible locations for a new data center in the District. On completion of these activities, it was determined that 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room C at the administration building is the preferred location for a new data center. This location provides the following advantages over other alternatives that were considered:

- Interior space within the building with no windows or outside walls, which will result in an appropriately secure data center
- A riser exists between the two locations providing a pathway for fiber infrastructure
- Minimal construction required in the new location to outfit it as a data center

Other locations within the District were considered, both at the administration building and at other sites, which were eliminated from consideration due to either security concerns or high construction costs that would be required to remodel the spaces and re-route fiber infrastructure.

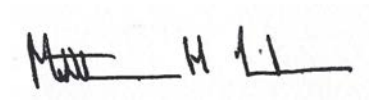
**Next Steps**

Upon approval by the Board of Education to proceed French and Associates will be tasked with the architectural design of the remodeled space, including physical construction and building services (electrical and HVAC). On completion and validation of design, bid documents will be developed for construction, cabling infrastructure (including fiber) and move management services. The intent is to bid out the project in the fall of 2017, with implementation of the move completed by the end of 2017.

The technology team is available to answer any questions that the Board may have related to this request.

Sincerely,

PLANTE MORAN CRESA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Lindner", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Matt Lindner  
Senior Manager