



MIDWEST CENTRAL CUSD #191

1010 S. Washington Street, Manito, IL 61546-9474

phone 309.968.6868

fax 309.968.7916

Dr. Todd A. Hellrigel, *Superintendent*

I am writing this letter of recommendation to reassure any districts looking to work with Omni Energy Partners that they are in good hands. Omni is a trusted partner of Midwest Central CUSD #191. They collectively represent years of successful experience in construction and energy efficiency. I have been involved in several school construction projects in multiple districts. Compared with past experiences, I found them very easy to work with and highly communicative with any of my staff that had questions.

Omni spent a significant amount of time providing us with a detailed review of our district facilities, pointing out many improvements that would help in achieving our long-term goals. They met with our Board of Education to relay the benefits of performance contracting and helped them clearly understand how it would address our district's needs. We decided that Omni Energy Partners was the appropriate group to tackle the project at hand.

In the summer of 2021, our partnership with Omni delivered on those much-needed facility upgrades. Our 50-year-old boiler really needed to be replaced as there were opportunities for significant increases in energy efficiency. The piping system was deteriorating and leaking. Omni, in conjunction with the great contractors that they had on the team, provided a total new mechanical system and building controls. A component of the project included lighting improvements, and their team installed state-of-the-art LED fixtures that drastically reduced costs and improved the learning environment for our students and teachers. Finally, they coordinated the installation of bipolar ionization at all three of our buildings and provided air sample results before and after showing improved air quality for our students and teachers.

Summer projects of this magnitude, involving millions of dollars, always create anxiety for boards, administrators, and staff because there is a hard deadline in order to start school the next fall. Omni has a clear understanding of the uniqueness of schools and construction concerns. Emptying a 75,000 square foot building, removing all the lights, ceilings, and HVAC components is no small feat and can create immediate concerns about timeline completion. Omni is keenly aware of this, provided an on-site Project Manager to help avoid delays, and kept the process moving along smoothly. Throughout the entire process, Omni was transparent with everyone at the district while taking complete ownership of everything from start to finish and beyond. I highly recommend Omni Energy Partners to any district or organization that is considering renovating or upgrading your existing facilities with a project large or small. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me, as I would be more than happy to discuss my experiences with the team.

Sincerely,

Todd Hellrigel,
Superintendent



Achieving Success Through Education

www.MidwestCentral.org

BOARD MEMBERS

Mark Berg, *President* • Tara Zaayenga, *Vice President* • Melinda Beebe • Heather Friedrich • Scott Dierker • Amber Schmidt • Steve Bernhardt