



# CHAMBERSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

2397 Loop Road

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 17201

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March 18, 1998

Kenneth A. Byers  
Assistant Superintendent  
Curriculum & Instruction

Mr. Bryan Hoke  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
Letterkenny Army Depot  
1 Overcash Avenue, Bldg 500  
Chambersburg, PA 17201-4150

Dear Bryan:

The purpose of this correspondence is to accomplish the following:

- (1) Provide a detailed account of the Chambersburg Area School District's proposed use of the approximately 230 acres of the real property in the area commonly known as the "Community Use/Open Space" District 4 area of the Reuse Strategy Summary Report, May, 1997.
- (2) Clearly articulate that CASD is not interested in ownership of this property unless it is cleaned to the level that is safe for the uses described below.
- (3) Express our desire to have assessment and cleanup accelerated in order to expedite transfer of the property to LIDA and thus to CASD.

### PROPOSED LAND USE BY CHAMBERSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The attached map of District 4 – Community Use/Open Space area is divided into sub-districts 4B, 4C, 4E, and 4F. Educational and recreational uses of this property are described below, by sub-district.

#### 4.B – Travel/Recreational Area

This 35 acre parcel is primarily a wooded area consisting of a RV travel center for camping. It has maintained fitness and nature trails. It also provides softball and/or hockey field practice areas. Additionally, two child care centers are located on the property.

Proposed CASD use would include an Environmental Education Center and sports practice area. It would also be open to senior citizens and the general public for softball practice, nature walks, and fitness activities in off-school hours.

During the school year, from August to June, students in grades K-12 would be bussed to this site to receive instruction on environment, ecology and natural resources in the infant day care facilities. They would also take walking tours through the nature trail area.

Students participating in softball, field hockey, soccer, and cross-country would also use this site as a practice area.

#### 4.C – Barracks and Residential Housing Area

This area consists of Kenny Gardens, a former residential housing facility for military personnel with families. It also has numerous standard military-type wood structure buildings that provide office space for depot operations. There are two areas on this parcel that provide recreational opportunities.

School district proposed use includes leasing Kenny Gardens to the PA Minor Judiciary for housing district justices and judges as they receive training in other areas of the depot.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Student athletes would use the softball/soccer field for practice. Additionally, community softball leagues could use the field in off-school hours.

Finally, a greenhouse will be built next to the PX as an extension of our Horticulture program. The PX will be used as a head house and retail florist/nursery.

#### 4.E – Farm Houses Along South Patrol Road

This area consists of a water waste treatment plant and three farm houses. The waste water treatment plant and surrounding area will be retained by L.I.D.A.

The large home identified as the former Commander's House will be used as a community retreat facility for rental and available for district activities.

The two smaller houses will be used as student meeting houses to support the Agricultural Education Program in areas 4.E. and 4.F. They will also be used to support the Supervised Agriculture Experience (S.A.E.) projects on site. These projects could either be crops or small animal projects. The land between the two houses may be fenced and developed into livestock pasture.

#### 4.F. – Cropland, Grassland and Wooded Area

Currently the Army leases 71 acres of cropland and grassland to an area farmer.

Proposed utilization of the existing agricultural land will be in the form of test plots to be conducted by students in conjunction with seed companies. Farm equipment will be used to provide hands-on opportunities for agricultural education students. It will also be the test and practice site for Turf and Grass Management courses. Farm equipment will be stored in the pesticide storage building near the site.

The wooded portion of the parcel will be developed into an expanded environmental education study area.

The above application represents our short-term use of sub-district 4.F.

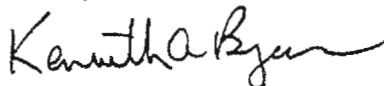
Long-term use of this parcel may likely be the building of an elementary school to serve the needs of a growing student population at some future date.

Although Pennsylvania's population continues to grow slower than the rest of the nation, Franklin County is ranked 17 of 67 in the State in terms of population growth from 1990 to 1997.

Sub-district 4.F would be an excellent location for a K-5 elementary schools should the need arise. It has the land area and topography to accommodate such a use.

Please communicate this information up your chain of command as you meet with appropriate representatives charged with environmental clean-up and transfer issues.

Sincerely,



Kenneth A. Byers, D.Ed.  
Assistant Superintendent

Attachment: 1

cc: Mr. Jan Sulcove, CASD Solicitor  
Mr. Garry Gontz, BTC  
Mr. Scott Wentling, R. E. Wright, Inc.  
Mr. Gerry Bresee, COE