



Barb Martin-Thomas  
Topeka Public Schools  
125 S.E.27<sup>th</sup>  
Topeka, Ks 66605-1196

March 3, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

Hello, my name is Barb Martin-Thomas and I am the Custodial Support Supervisor for Topeka Public Schools USD 501. We staff 85 full time and 18 part time custodial employees at 38 facilities.

This district entered into what has been a very successful contract five years ago, with 4-State Maintenance Supply to provide us with products, consultation and support services for our custodial staff. 4-State provides us with top of the line chemicals and supplies which have been researched and proven to be safe, successful, and as “green” as possible. As a result of the training they’ve provided for our staff, the use of proper products, and implementing proper procedures, the cleanliness and appearance of our facilities have vastly improved. Pride and motivation among custodial staff have improved as well.

4-State has trained our custodial staff by lecture, film and hands on experience, in all aspects of; floor and carpet care, cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting for MRSA, H1N1 and all type A viruses, equipment safety and maintenance, efficient equipment use, soil identification, chemical composition, window cleaning, polishing terrazzo and gym floor polishing.

Within our district are 20 wood gym floors that previously were professionally refinished on a yearly rotating basis. Teaching our custodial staff the method of polishing gym floors, 4-State has saved the district upwards of \$25,000 annually. This method of “polishing” preserves the finish for several years even with heavy usage and the cost is less than \$150 per gym. Polishing terrazzo is another savings both chemically and financially they have trained our staff to utilize.

Required by law to maintain certifications in Blood Borne Pathogens & Employee Right to Know, our custodial staff gain their certifications in training with 4-State annually.

4-State has brought forth the best possible products, trained our personnel and answered our calls for help every week for the past 5 years, while providing the district with the directives it needs to keep things flowing smoothly on a daily basis. The entire staff of 4-State are a pleasure to work with, and quick to respond to our needs in a positive manner.

Sincerely,  
Barb Martin-Thomas