

SBAC Members - Please add your questions by end of day Monday, September 11

Suggested Questions for Architect Interviews

1. The District is evaluating the needs of multiple schools on the same campus. Describe any similar experience with the study of multiple configurations, consolidations and alternate site development options.
2. The community is moving forward after a failed referendum for school improvements. How will your firm ensure the project is matched to the needs and desires of the community?
3. How has your firm been able to partner with communities to support the design and construction of educationally appropriate, flexible, sustainable, and cost-effective public-school facilities?
4. Provide examples of choices you have made in specifying systems such as lighting, BMS, HVAC and/or auditorium controls that provide the “right” level of energy efficiency and sophistication within the client’s budget.
5. Describe your role in assisting the public community in understanding the conclusions of the feasibility phase. How have you helped the public understand the various design options, and the involvement of various owner groups on other projects?
6. This project involves the evaluation of existing facilities with report data from previous firms. How will your firm validate the existing information to ensure the right conclusions are drawn?
7. Please discuss your experience with phased occupied building and site renovation projects for Elementary Schools. Discuss the challenges and potential solutions available to accommodate the existing school enrollment during construction.
8. What quality control measures do you employ during the various phases of design, document preparation, and construction administration to insure completeness, accuracy, and coordination of the work of the architect and all the consultants?
9. What is your experience with sustainable design and, specifically, what are some of the potential design elements that could be employed to make this a “green” project?
10. Please describe your work experience with the last three projects involving new construction to school facilities. For each of these projects, please provide and discuss the project construction budget at bidding, the accepted bid/GMP cost, the final construction cost at completion, the number and categories of change orders during construction, and the total value of construction change orders. Discuss your experiences in managing the design to budget through each design phase, bidding, and construction completion.

11. Describe your experience utilizing 3-D and BIM.
12. Discuss your previous experience in assisting clients with community outreach. Discuss the tools and techniques that could be employed.

Suggested question from Michael Hussey:

Given the SBAC's objective to offer the community a range of design options complete with associated costs and benefits, how would your firm assist us in developing these alternatives in a way that can be easily understood and evaluated by the public? Can you cite specific examples where you successfully developed diverse design options and collaborated with a committee similar to the SBAC, with the ultimate aim of securing strong public confidence for the passage of a funding measure?