

QuEst Services Corporation was formed in 2001 to fill a request by an Architectural Firm to assist their client with a difficult and contentious project for a large governmental agency. QuEst was asked to evaluate the Construction Manager's budget and evaluate materials, means and methods that had put a high-profile project behind schedule and way over budget. QuEst did an evaluation of the budget, worked with the designers to phase the project and to remove sole source items in the Specifications and submitted a Schematic Design Budget of \$92 mm. This budget was \$8 mm less than the Construction Manager's Schematic Budget Submission. The Construction Manager was terminated for cause at that point. QuEst continued to work with the Owner and the Architect through Design Development and beyond until a set of biddable Construction Documents was issued. The project was bid out and the project went to contract at a low bid of \$90.8mm. QuEst was retained, by the OWNER, The Veteran's Administration, to manage any and all change orders and manage specified allowances. Thus, QuEst was born based on a need for Owner's in the Construction Industry.

PRE-CONSTRUCTION PHASE: QuEst Services Corporation has naturally evolved into a role of assisting and guiding Montana Rural School Districts in developing roadmaps that address the steps needed to build capital campus projects as needs arise. We understand the effort needed upfront, before any funding is even in place, to create a successful Capital Construction Campaign. QuEst assists School Districts in developing plans and implementing a successful Pre-Bond Campaign by guiding the District in creating a Political Action Committee made up of Community Influencers that will ultimately be instrumental in gaining Public support. Simultaneously, as that program is in place and functioning, we assist the District with an assessment of their existing facilities coupled with the *needs, wants & desires* of the District and the Public to evaluate and formulate the most effective and efficient path to that goal, including the passage of a Financing Mechanism.

CONSTRUCTION PHASE: Once the funding is in place, QuEst Services Corporation guides the District in moving forward with the desired Design and Construction Program, ensuring that the Architects, Engineers and Contractors deliver your Project under the terms of their Contracts. We hold all parties accountable for doing what they said they would, *without* adding costs or scope to the project. Our Cost Engineering Services make sure the District is getting the *BEST VALUE* for the members of the School District, the Community Members at large, and most importantly, the Educators and their Students.

QuEst Services Corporation would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you how we could add value with a NET-Zero Cost, on your next project. We look forward to working with you on your next Project.

Sincerely, *J. Mark Qualman* J. Mark Qualman, President