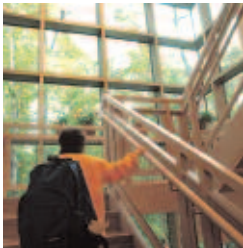
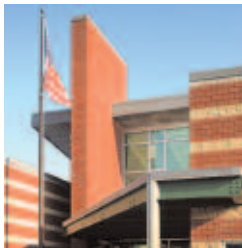


FROM THE EDITOR

Building, and locating, the perfect school



The oft-repeated statistics are depressing. Think about the number of post-World War II schools, the product of inexpensive, flat-roof construction, that are still in use today. Think about the schools that are poorly equipped to handle technology, or the ones that are—how can this be put delicately?—energy inefficient.

Fortunately, as Associate Editor Joetta Sack-Min notes on Page 16, times are changing. Her story looks at the 21st-century trends that are moving design and construction forward, as well as the decisions that school leaders like you face when determining what, where, and how to build the perfect school.

Also as part of our facilities focus, we welcome Kelley Carey—a frequent contributor to *ASBJ*—back to our pages. This month, on Page 22, he looks at the impact of the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision on race-based admissions and how it will affect facilities planning.

It's an interesting read, with practical advice for school districts. If you are looking to build a school, you can find more good advice from Kelley in the archive section of our website, www.asbj.com.

In the editor's column of August's *ASBJ*, I addressed the issue of plagiarism and its impact on the publishing industry, all the way from the class-

room to our magazine's pages.

At the end of the column, we pledged to be more diligent in checking the work of all magazine contributors, including our own staff. So I am sad to report that, while editing September's Up Front section, we found at least two instances in which substantial sections of a staff member's copy had been lifted verbatim from other publications.

We met with the writer, who admitted to instances in which the work of others had been improperly used. We are continuing to research material provided by this writer back to September 2006; the tainted copy we found was not published.

After completing our investigation, we took appropriate action. The employee no longer works for the magazine or the National School Boards Association (NSBA). We also have provided training to the publications team and the greater NSBA staff on plagiarism and proper attribution.

We hope you understand that this employee's actions do not measure up to our magazine's editorial standards, and that we feel an ethical obligation and responsibility to inform our readers—both on our blog, the Leading Source (<http://leadingsource.asbj.com>), and in print—of what has occurred.

Until next month...

Glenn Cook, Editor-in-Chief
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