

**NORRIS SCHOOL DISTRICT 160**  
25211 S. 68<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
FIRTH, NE 68358  
402-791-0000

**Administration**

**Dr. Roy Baker, Superintendent**  
**Galen Boldt, Assistant Superintendent**  
**Bary Habrock, High School Principal**  
**Randy Bates, Asst HS Principal/A.D.**  
**Barry Stark, Middle School Principal**  
**Dr. Bob Brandt, Elementary School Principal**  
**Matt Rice, Elementary School Assistant Principal**

**Board of Education**

**Patty Bentzinger**  
**Jim Craig**  
**Norm Wallman**  
**Tom Kohn**  
**Cinda Zimmer**  
**Dale Harlan**

October 18, 2004

Linda Hutchinson, Territory Manager  
School Specialty

Dear Linda:

In my thirty-one years as a school superintendent in Iowa and Nebraska, I have learned that there are certain items in a school operation for which it does not pay to try to economize. Lunchroom tables is one prime example. I once spent a little more money to purchase Mitchell lunchroom tables in one Elementary building, and went with another leading manufacturer in another Elementary building – the same year. Within the first year or two, there was no question that the Mitchell tables were standing up better under the heavy use than were the other manufacturer's.

When a F4 force tornado struck the Norris Schools on May 22, 2004, our three-year old Mitchell tables were ruined. When it came time for replacement, we learned that it would take longer for the manufacturers of Mitchell to replace those tables. We had the opportunity to have another brand of lunchroom tables in place for the September 7 delayed opening of our school year. Based on lessons learned in the past, and on our high satisfaction with the Mitchell lunchroom tables we purchased three years ago, it was an easy decision for me to get along with makeshift arrangements for a while, and wait for the Mitchell tables. To me, there is no question that they are the best in the business.

I am not in the habit of writing testimonials for school products and furniture. However, I feel strongly about this and have no hesitation about passing along my advice to other school officials. Purchasing the best lunchroom tables is a decision with which the schools will be happy, and in fact proves to be the most economical solution over time.

Sincerely,

*Roy E. Baker, Ed. D.*  
Superintendent  
Norris School District 160