

**Exeter School Board determined to build schools
on prime agricultural land despite potential
negative impact on Exeter Township.**

The Exeter Township School Board has AGAIN made accusations that Exeter Township Planners and/or Supervisors are harming the children of Exeter because of their stance on building on AP land. Unfortunately, the School Board doesn't seem to remember or acknowledge the facts that the State of Pennsylvania will NOT provide funds to Exeter Township for building the proposed school BECAUSE they would be built on AP land. The TAXPAYERS of Exeter Township should be OUTRAGED at the fact that they will take the complete burden of funding not only the purchase of the land, but also the full cost of construction along with the costs of upgrading the sewage system and the roads in the area of the proposed schools. Is it possible that all of this will require raising the property taxes of Exeter Township Residents by 10 to 30% over the next several years to accommodate the lavish spending of the School Board? Some say yes. Why should we accept this?

Other key points to take into consideration:

- Why build these schools so far away from the township population center?
- Why build them where traffic is already a problem with long waits on the often congested Rt. 562 and Oley Turnpike, especially when the situation will only get much, much worse when Central Catholic High School is built?
- Why not use land that the School Board already owns?
- What is the School Board doing to lessen the property tax burden on our community?

- Schools should NOT be Taj Mahals. Are the board members willing to help the community by NOT building schools that are more art than function?
- Why should the School Board be allowed to continually accuse the Planners, the Supervisors and Township Residents of NOT being in favor of education and NOT looking out for the community instead of acknowledging opinions and suggestions as valid and at least making the attempt to consider that it (the School Board) is WRONG?
- Actions by the Exeter Township School Board, to some, look rather unethical and detrimental to the community. Case in point, the land that the schools would be built upon was NOT for sale. The School Board informed the property owner that they would take the land per eminent domain unless he sold it to them. Bullying? Unethical? Immoral? Think how you'd feel if the School Board decided that your property should be theirs and forced you to leave. Does this show that the School Board doesn't care about the residents of Exeter Township because of their willingness to kick someone out of their home?
- The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) makes it nearly impossible to prevent developers from building more houses on lands unless they are zoned such that areas of proposed construction do not allow such development. A member of the School Board recently accused the Township Planning Commission of making it necessary to build more schools because they allowed too much housing development. Unfortunately, this board member does not understand that the laws would prevent the planners and supervisors from denying the developments under the current MPC. What does this mean? We need to have the State of Pennsylvania change the MPC to allow

communities to make the decisions on whether or not to allow development of township lands. The accusation by the school board member, while unfounded, brings to light the fact that there are too many separate entities (e.g. School Board, Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, etc.) with insufficient communication among them to ensure that each is able to come to the correct decisions about issues without misunderstandings creating animosity.

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