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Somerset, WI
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Phoenix, AZ
RDG Planning and Design

Grand Rapids Community College Lakeshore Campus
Holland, MI
GMB Architecture + Engineering

Hildreth Elementary School
Boston, MA
Arrowstreet

Santa Monica College Student Services Building
Santa Monica, CA
Huitt-Zollars

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CONTENTS

VOLUME 94 • ISSUE 9 • AUGUST 2022

EDUCATIONAL INTERIORS SHOWCASE

Outstanding Designs

ON THE COVER

Ivan G. Smith Elementary School
Danvers, Massachusetts (p. 57)
Architect: Tappe Architects
Photo: Ed Wonsek ArtWorks

DEPARTMENTS

SPECIAL FEATURE

ALSO IN EVERY ISSUE ...

American School & University, (ISSN: 0003-0945; digital ISSN: 2161-7791) August 2022, Vol. 94, No. 9. Published monthly except for combined issues in January/February and May/June and November/December. Free to qualified persons in the United States by Endeavor Business Media, 1233 Janesville Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 (endeavorbusinessmedia.com). Printed in the U.S.A. Free and controlled circulation to qualified subscribers. Non-qualified persons may subscribe at the following rates: USA: 1 year $69, 2 years, $109; Canada: 1 year $79, 2 years, $139; other international: 1 year $99, 2 years, $159. For subscriber services or to order single copies, call customer service at (847) 559-7598 or send an email to americanschool@omeda.com. Postal/Email List Rentals: Smart Reach sr-assets@endeavorb2b.com. Periodicals postage paid at Fort Atkinson, WI and at additional mailing offices. Canadian GST #R126431964. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to American School & University, PO Box 3257, Northbrook, IL 60065-3257 USA. Allow 6 to 8 weeks for change of address.

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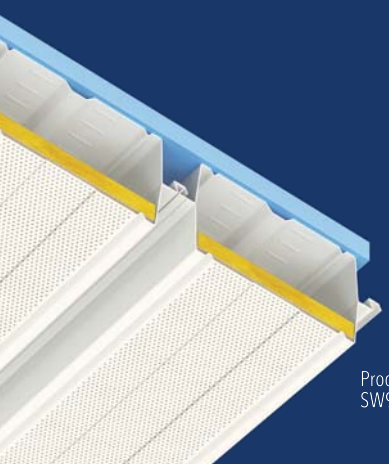

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Karcher Middle School – Burlington, Wisconsin Architect: Plunkett Raysich Architects – Milwaukee, Wisconsin

CHOOSING EXCELLENCE

By Mike Kennedy

For the last year or so, the local school district has been building a new elementary campus in my neighborhood. In my periodic checks of the progress of construction as the site transformed from an empty field to a 21st-century educational facility, I would frequently think about all the decisions that led to this new school: Why build at this location? Should the building be larger than the school it is replacing? Should the main entrance be on the north-south street, or the east-west street? How big should the parking lot be? Where should the windows go, and how many should there be?

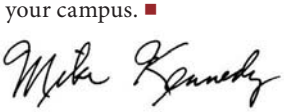
Those questions don't even begin to address the inside of the school and the choices being made to create classrooms and other spaces that enhance student learning. Identifying all the elements that go into designing and building an education facility and then choosing the right option seem overwhelming to me—that's probably why I'm a journalist and not an architect or a school administrator.

Fortunately for readers of American School & University, they didn't have to rely on me to select which educational interiors were worthy of recognition in the 2022 Educational Interiors Showcase. We assembled a jury of architects, K-12 and higher education administrators who have the perspective and the experience to evaluate project entries and see what the designers were trying to accomplish.

The five jurors volunteered several hours of their time to review the submissions before coming together in a video conference and reaching a consensus on which school interiors stood out from the pack and should be honored with a Citation.

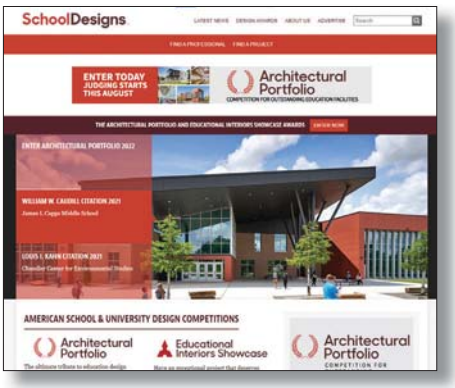
The panel decided to award Citations to nine projects. The top K-12 award for the 2022 Educational Interiors Showcase—the Crow Island School Citation—was given to Meridian High School in Falls Church, Va. for its commons area, designed by Stantec (page 14). The Collegiate Citation—the top higher education honor—was awarded to Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., for the Digital Learning Commons in Alexander Library. It was designed by Spiezle Architectural Group (page 16).

The Citation recipients and the other outstanding interior designs included in this issue provide administrators and architects with a good representation of the facility upgrades that schools and universities are carrying out on their campuses in the last few years. The innovative design solutions found among these entries may inspire the next facility project on your campus. ■

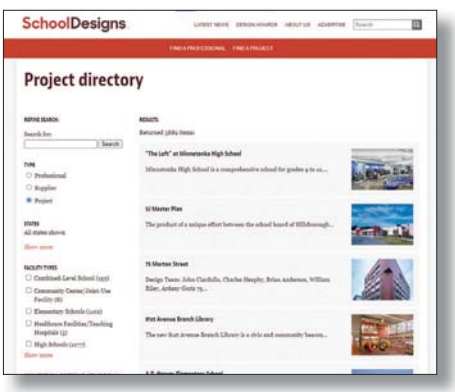


Mike Kennedy, Senior Editor, has written for *AS&U* on a wide range of educational issues since 1999.

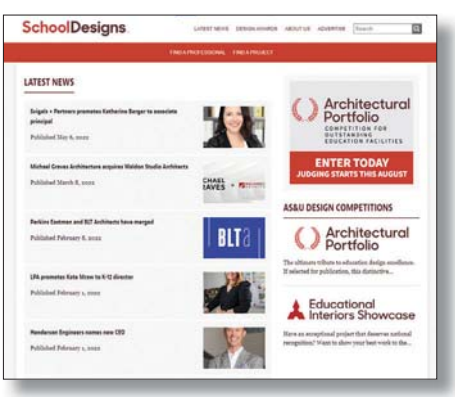
Your Web Source for Education Design



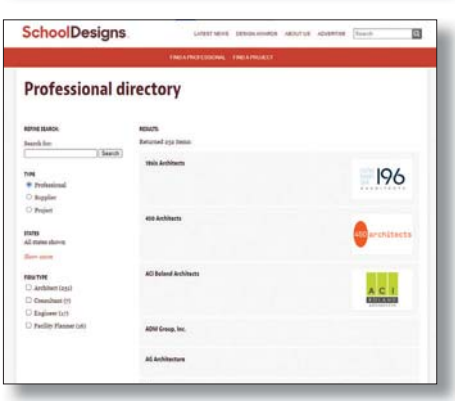
Design competition information and Citation recipients from previous years.



Searchable database of almost 6,000 educational facility projects with photos, descriptions and data.



Find the latest news about architects and design firms.



Find an architect, including links to that architect's projects on the site.

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CONTENT DIRECTOR/ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
Joe Agron • jagron@endeavorb2b.com

SENIOR EDITOR
Mike Kennedy • mkennedy@asumag.com

ART DIRECTOR
Doug Coonrod • dcoonrod@endeavorb2b.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Brooke Just • bjust@endeavorb2b.com

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS • Stephen Ashkin; Paul Erickson; American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Education

VICE PRESIDENT, BUILDINGS & CONSTRUCTION GROUP
Mike Hellmann • mhellmann@endeavorb2b.com

GROUP EDITORIAL DIRECTOR - BUILDINGS & CONSTRUCTION GROUP
Mike Eby • meby@endeavorb2b.com

SENIOR PRODUCTION OPERATIONS MANAGER
Greg Araujo • garaujo@endeavorb2b.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Brenda Wiley • bwiley@endeavorb2b.com

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CORPORATE OFFICE:
Endeavor Business Media
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INSIDE INFO

IN June, a group of architects and education administrators came together via videoconferencing to review dozens of school designs entered in AS&U's 2022 Educational Interiors Showcase. After narrowing the field to those they deemed most impressive, the five jurors, who work in various capacities in the world of education facility design and construction, chose the K-12 and higher education projects they determined to be worthy of Citations.

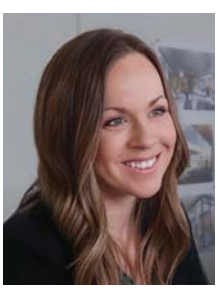
Prior to their deliberations, the jurors identified some of the criteria they would be mindful of as they evaluated the submitted projects:

- Clarity and execution of the design.
- The shape and scale of a space and how people interact in it.
- How well furnishings function within a space.
- Flexibility and adaptability that support student well-beng.
- How a space promotes collaboration and community
- How well different design elements work together
- The quality of light in a space; access to daylighting
- Accessibility
- How a space integrates technology

Rachel Adams

Katherine Berger

Karen Jackson



Kandis Larsen

Gerald Morgan

WHAT THE JURY SAID:

"The building is rich with student-centric spaces that offer student choice and encourage collaborative interactions. The spaces have a high quality and aesthetic that is complemented by the materials, finishes and furnishings" p. 14-15

"Nice space planning that allows for seamless transition from individual study to group study. The furnishings and finishes create a dynamic environment that most likely energizes student interaction and experiences." p. 16-17

"The quality and variety of spaces, and the quality of experiential graphics offer students agency and a variety of ways to foster community among their peers. The project extends the sphere of learning beyond the normal school facilities and hours." p. 18-19

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Rachel Adams

MANAGING PRINCIPAL, ARCHITECT OF RECORD
A4E (ARCHITECTURE FOR EDUCATION)
PASADENA, CALIF.

Rachel provides day-to-day leadership to the team at A4E. With 22 years of experience in educational architecture, she brings critical knowledge of the building and educational codes to all projects. Her management and planning expertise drives budget, schedule, and program compliance; she often says that A4E creates the framework for clients to confidently dream big. She facilitates stakeholder workshops, community presentations, and design coordination to ensure that an interactive and collaborative process is maintained.

Rachel continues to share her passion for learning as an ACE mentor, introducing high school students to the career opportunities within the fields of architecture, construction, and engineering.

Katherine Berger

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL,
DIRECTOR OF INTERIOR DESIGN
SVIGALS + PARTNERS
NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Katherine has accumulated over a decade of design experience at firms in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Her keen ability to see potential where others may not has resulted in client accolades for reimagined spaces that foster well-being and productivity. Her diverse portfolio spans the education, civic, corporate, residential, and healthcare sectors. Her priority as a designer is to deliver spaces that improve the well-being of their users.

She pursued her WELL accreditation to develop this expertise of creating spaces that enhance the human condition through aesthetic accommodation and high-level functionality. She thrives during the programming phase of a project—interviewing end users on their needs and harnessing that information to create solutions that delight. This is what Katherine loves most about design — immersing herself at the intersection of science and art.

Karen Jackson

EXECUTIVE SUPERVISOR OF FACILITIES
KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
(HOME OF THE KALAMAZOO PROMISE)
KALAMAZOO, MICH.

With over 25 years of experience in facilities management, Karen oversees 35 buildings, all the district's capital improvement projects, and the maintenance, grounds, stockroom, community education, and custodial departments. She has assisted in identifying, planning, communicating and carrying out more than $600 million bond projects for the Kalamazoo district, including four new elementary buildings, one new middle school, an auxiliary gymnasium and an auditorium.

Kandis Larsen

ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL, INTERIOR DESIGNER
INTEGRUS ARCHITECTURE
SPOKANE, WASH.

A design leader at her firm, Kandis is committed to nurturing a culture of trust and inclusivity in her interactions with clients, stakeholders, and across her project teams. Kandis is strongly influenced by her dual background in architecture and interior design, enabling her to provide integrated and holistic solutions to the most complex design challenges.

Her passion for design is grounded in her interactions with a diverse body of stakeholders and a process that begins with listening. Kandis' work is routinely recognized for striking a balance of function, experience, and beauty.

Gerald Morgan

DIRECTOR OF SPACE PLANNING & MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
COLUMBIA, MO.

Gerald is an architect and the Director of Space Planning & Management at the University of Missouri. After graduating from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Architecture degree, he began his career as an intern architect with Black & Veatch Engineers & Architects in Overland Park, Kan. After additional stops working for the city of Kansas City, Mo., and the Department of Army at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., Gerald joined the Design Services group at the University of Missouri where his main focus was on bringing the campus into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. As a construction project manager at the university, he managed $125 million in new construction and renovation 16 years.

Gerald was promoted to Director of MU Space Planning & Management in April, 2015, and now is guiding the Mizzou Space Reduction and Strategic Relocation Initiative that is projected to save the university more than $8.9 million in annual operating costs and eliminate more than $218 million in deferred building maintenance and capital needs by 2024. Gerald is a past winner of the University of Missouri Chancellor's Outstanding Professional Staff Award and shares his experience in planning, design and construction by speaking at higher education facilities conferences regionally and nationally. ■

Q&A with Tiffany Coppock

AIA, NCARB, CSI, CDT, RCI, LEED, Commercial Building Specialist at Owens Corning

Solving for thermal bridging challenges

Tiffany Coppock

What is thermal bridging and where does it occur?

A thermal bridge is a location in the building envelope where a more conductive material disrupts thermal resistance efforts. Such interruptions can reduce thermal performance leading to energy waste and potential condensation risk.

It's important to keep in mind that thermal bridges can occur at any junction between construction components throughout the envelope. For example, the location where a steel beam meets an exterior wall can create a path for heat to be lost through conductive materials. As today's energy codes largely require continuous insulation to combat this energy loss, architects and contractors have made big strides in reducing thermal bridges. But there is still room to reduce thermal loss in key areas of the envelope. Solving for these challenging areas can help schools and universities in their efforts to achieve net zero or net positive energy objectives. Insulation acts as a workhorse in managing thermal performance throughout the envelope, while subtly supporting other performance attributes including acoustics, compressive strength and moisture management.

FOAMGLAS® Perinsul® SIB at the base of a masonry veneer exterior wall creates a continuous thermal barrier.

What challenges can thermal bridging present?

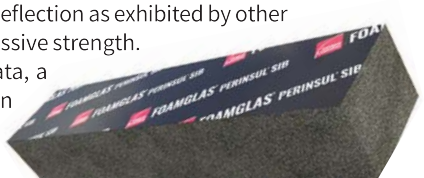
Heat energy lost due to thermal bridging can translate to higher than expected heating and cooling costs. Sometimes building owners are surprised at how a building performs in "real-world" conditions compared to expectations during building commissioning. The difference between a building's expected consumption of energy and what it actually uses is the performance gap, and thermal bridging helps explain this discrepancy.

Moisture is another problem associated with thermal bridging. In addition to reducing thermal performance, a thermal bridge can create condensation. Trapped inside, moisture can collect in the wall, potentially creating mildew and mold formation.

In situations where load-bearing capabilities are not a requirement, insulating options like polystyrene or mineral wool can be good thermal insulation choices to resist thermal bridging. But as these insulating options do not offer the compressive strength needed for bearing the load of masonry veneer walls, some level of thermal performance is sacrificed. This challenge has long posed a problem in a key location for masonry construction - the intersection of a structure's ground floor and the masonry block units.

How is building science bringing new solutions to manage thermal bridging in challenging parts of the envelope?

Cellular glass is a new insulating option for designers and contractors in the U.S. and it offers performance attributes well suited to masonry construction. Perhaps most significantly, the compressive strength of cellular glass insulation is much higher than other insulating materials. The compressive strength meets or exceeds 240 psi (capped) per ASTM C165 and most critically delivers this performance without deflection as exhibited by other insulations known for their compressive strength. Using the compressive strength data, a registered design professional can calculate the ultimate load and resulting height of a masonry veneer wall that may be placed on the insulating block. This strength offers a solution to defend against thermal bridging at critical load-bearing junctions. Long trusted in European buildings, cellular glass insulation offers U.S. specifiers and contractors an insulating choice to reduce thermal bridging while delivering compressive strength for load-bearing construction. Installed below masonry veneer walls, FOAMGLAS® PERINSUL® SIB helps curb thermal loss as it delivers uninterrupted insulation from one side of the wall to the other. In addition to supporting thermal performance, FOAMGLAS® PERINSUL® SIB is also impervious to moisture in liquid and vapor form.



FOAMGLAS® Perinsul® SIB (structural insulating block).

As educational institutions target ambitious sustainability goals and energy prices rise, optimizing a structure's thermal performance can help support energy efficiency and occupant comfort.

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CROW ISLAND SCHOOL Citation

Stantec
Meridian High School
Falls Church, Virginia..... p. 14-15

"The building is rich with student-centric spaces that offer student choice and encourage collaborative interactions. The spaces have a high quality and aesthetic that is complemented by the materials, finishes and furnishings."
—2022 jury

COLLEGIATE Citation

Spiezle Architectural Group
Rutgers University, Alexander Library, Digital Learning Commons
New Brunswick, New Jersey.....p. 16-17

"Nice space planning that allows for seamless transition from individual study to group study. The furnishings and finishes create a dynamic environment that most likely energizes student interaction and experiences."
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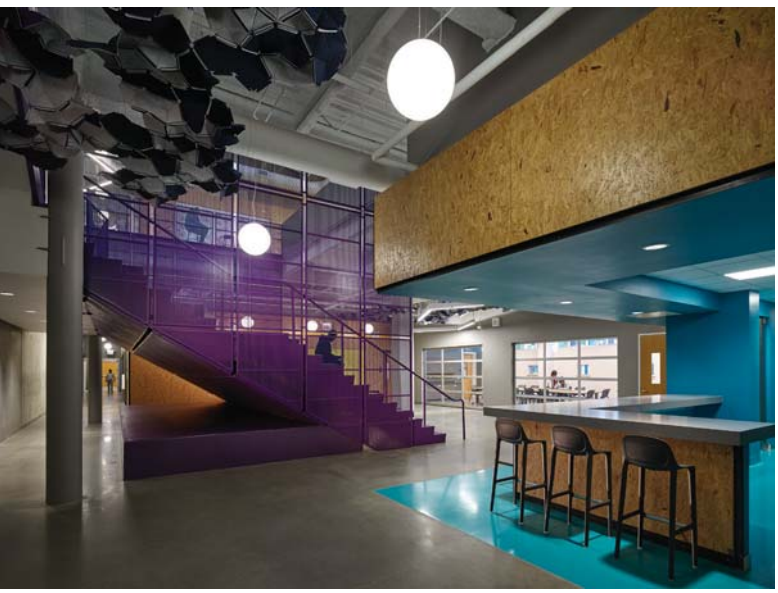


SPECIAL Citation

Eckenhoff Saunders

After School Matters Wing of Gately Park

Chicago, Illinois..... p. 18-19

"The quality and variety of spaces, and the quality of experiential graphics offer students agency and a variety of ways to foster community among their peers. The project extends the sphere of learning beyond the normal school facilities and hours."

—2022 jury

MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL
Falls Church, Virginia

Stantec
Associated firms: Gilbane, Quinn Evans Architects

Client
Falls Church City Public Schools

Project area
43,055 sq. ft.

Project cost
$15,749,519

Project cost/square foot
$366/sq. ft.

Total area
302,305 sq. ft.

Total cost
$110,582,942

Total cost/square foot
$366/sq. ft.

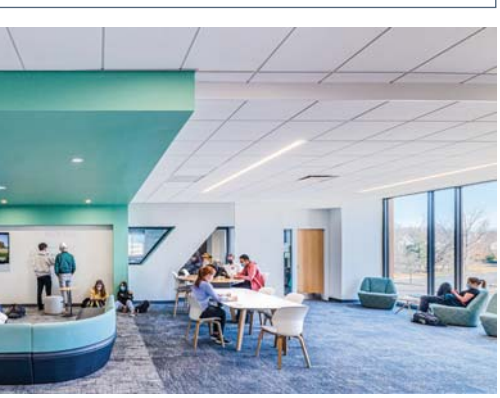
Completion
September 2021

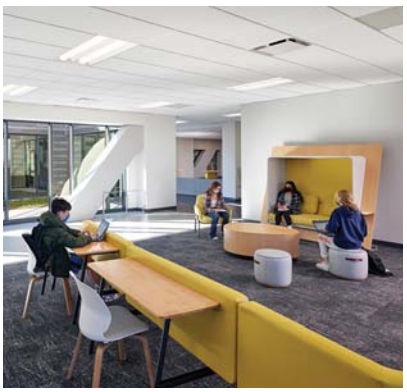
Photographer
Tom Holdsworth; Jerry Marinzel Jr.

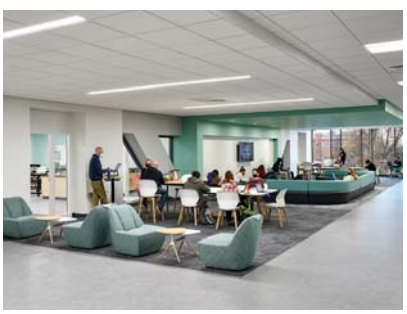
> "The building is rich with student-centric spaces that offer student choice and encourage collaborative interactions. The spaces have a high quality and aesthetic that is complemented by the materials, finishes and furnishings"
>
> —2022 JURY

For 10 years, Falls Church City envisioned a new school—one that was part of a larger vision for change and growth in the community. An innovative planning process created a compact and bold seven-story school design meant to inspire and support the community, while also enhancing the legacy for the next generation. From the moment students enter the lobby, they are greeted with two graphics, one that honors the past and another featuring the International Baccalaureate program pillars.

Meridian was designed as a community hub, much like a college campus. Connecting to the existing middle school, the footprint expanded to serve as a comprehensive secondary campus. To provide security, the public spaces occur on the lower level, 1st floor, and 2nd floor; the student-focused academic areas are on the upper floors. The innovation commons and learning stair







serve as the gateway to student life. The reimagined academic floors highlight multiple collaborative learning environments beyond the conventional classroom setting. Students can now learn and engage anywhere in the building with staff supervision.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, ALEXANDER LIBRARY, DIGITAL LEARNING COMMONS

New Brunswick, New Jersey

Spiezle Architectural Group

Client
Rutgers University

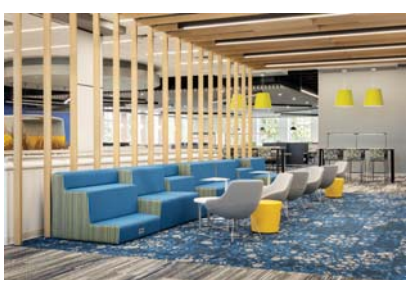
Project area
16,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$2,200,000

Cost/square foot
$137/sq. ft.

Completion
June 2021

Photographer
Spiezle Architectural Group Inc.©
Mike Van Tassell

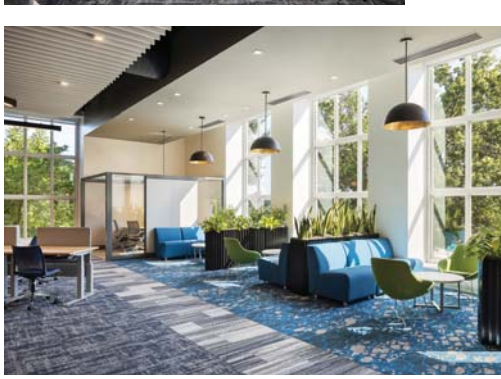


The architect teamed with Rutgers University to challenge the preconceived expectations of the "library." The reading room on the first floor of the existing Alexander Library has been renovated into a state-of-the-art digital learning commons. The project creates a nexus where students can work together in multimodal situations ranging from team collaboration to independent research. Keeping the student experience at the core of design, supported by modern aesthetics and flexibility, the space includes an expansive open learning commons with technology-laden desking, conference and collaboration rooms, individual touchdown desks, audio booths, and a team presentation space with advanced technology for video conferencing and digital presentations.

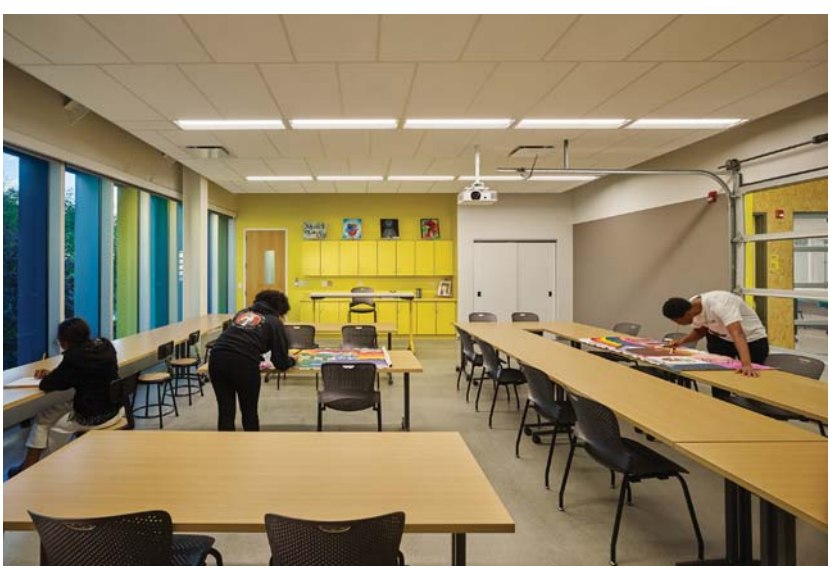
The student spaces in the learning commons are arranged in a pinwheel configuration to maximize the ability to transition smoothly from independent research to team collaboration. The desks are sit-to-stand desks that allow for full accessibility and user well-being. The learning commons and central hub are framed by a range of space types with varying furniture settings that offer opportunities for small and large group interaction. By using innovative technology, creative design ideas and curated material selections, the digital commons is the innovation center at the New Brunswick campus.

"Nice space planning that allows for seamless transition from individual study to group study. The furnishings and finishes create a dynamic environment that most likely energizes student interaction and experiences."

—2022 JURY



AFTER SCHOOL MATTERS WING OF GATELY PARK
Chicago, Illinois



In a joint effort with the Chicago Park District, After School Matters (ASM) has unveiled a multifunctional facility to serve high school students on the city's South Side. Directly adjacent to the park district's new field house at Gately Park, ASM Gately provides outstanding educational opportunities for local teens in the fields of art, culinary, dance, and music. Those enrolled in ASM programs also will have direct access to the indoor track and other recreational facilities for sport and fitness opportunities.

ASM Gately and the field house are within the 28-acre Gately Park, established in 1947 by the park district to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for underserved communities.

Grassy and landscaped, the park offers a welcome respite from busy nearby streets that border the property. The principal façade of the ASM wing is gently curved brick in deference to its park surroundings, and the window openings are punctuated by ASM's signature color palette.

This project was developed on the premise that students learn in a variety of settings, not just the classroom. Accordingly, the facility has breakout learning spaces in addition to dedicated areas for art, music, dance, and culinary arts.

These and other multifunctional studios are organized around a central atrium with amphitheater seating and illuminated from skylights above. On the second floor, a rooftop terrace serves as an outdoor classroom and a vegetable and herb garden. Public areas feature student-designed and -crafted art installations. The project has been designed to receive LEED certification.

> "The teen-centric spaces offer our teens the opportunity to collaborate on a myriad of projects, from culinary arts to dance, from graphic design to urban gardening. The flexibility in the design of the spaces allows them to create a sense of community as they celebrate their achievements."
>
> —BRENDAN DUBOIS, CHIEF OF STAFF, AFTER SCHOOL MATTERS

Eckenhoff Saunders
Associated firms:
McHugh/BOWA Joint Venture;
Williams Architects

Client
After School Matters

Project area
24,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$9,000,000

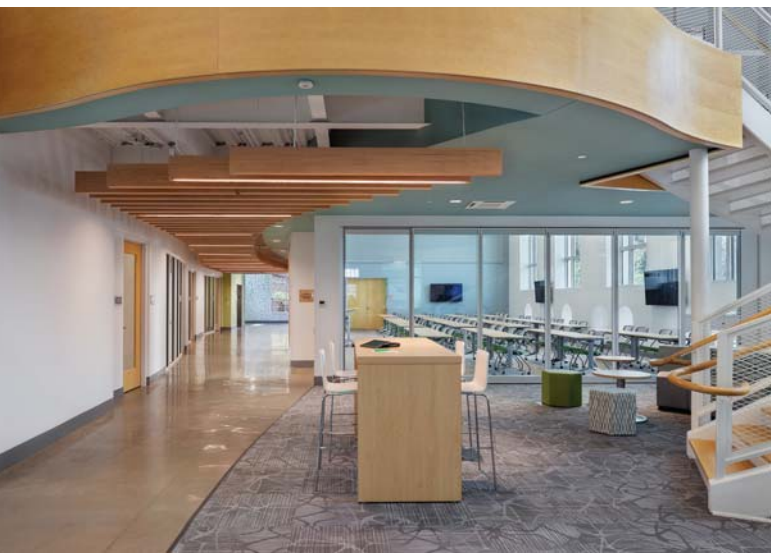
Cost/square foot
$375/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2020

Photographer
Mariusz Mizera Photography;
Kmiecik Imagery

"The quality and variety of spaces, and the quality of experiential graphics offer students agency and a variety of ways to foster community among their peers. The project extends the sphere of learning beyond the normal school facilities and hours."

—2022 JURY



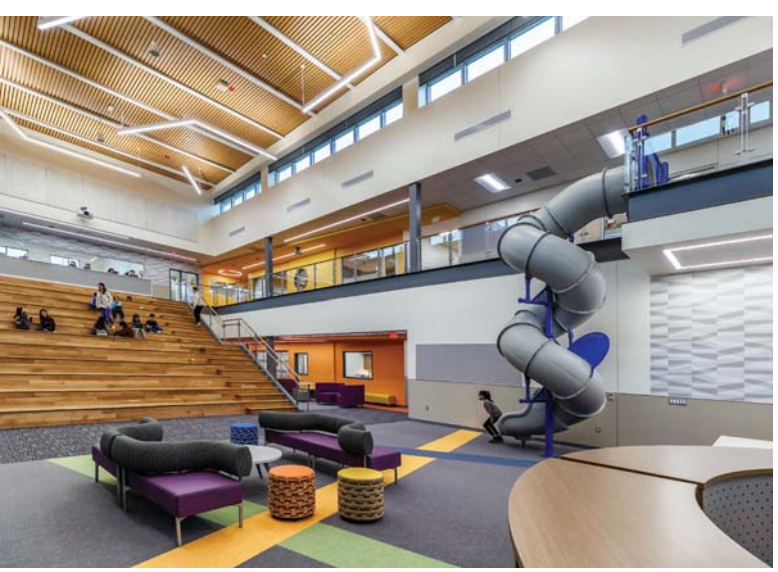
Orcutt | Winslow

Harpeth Hall, Bullard Bright IDEA Lab

Nashville, Tennessee p. 21

"Great conversion of existing space that was not serving the needs of the campus. The renovation transformed a dark gym into a bright, light and airy space with a feminine undertone."

—2022 jury



DLA Architects Ltd.

New Washington Elementary School

Schiller Park, Illinois p. 22

"The project demonstrates a clarity of purpose. Good use of color and playful shapes...and a slide!"

—2022 jury

HARPETH HALL, BULLARD BRIGHT IDEA LAB
Nashville, Tennessee

"Great conversion of existing space that was not serving the needs of the campus. The renovation transformed a dark gym into a bright, light and airy space with a feminine undertone."

—2022 JURY

Orcutt | Winslow

Client
The Harpeth Hall School

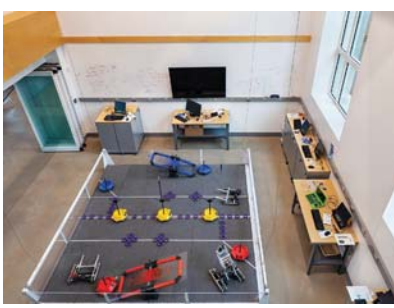
Project area
13,000 sq. ft.

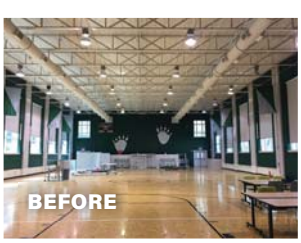
Project cost
$4,510,859

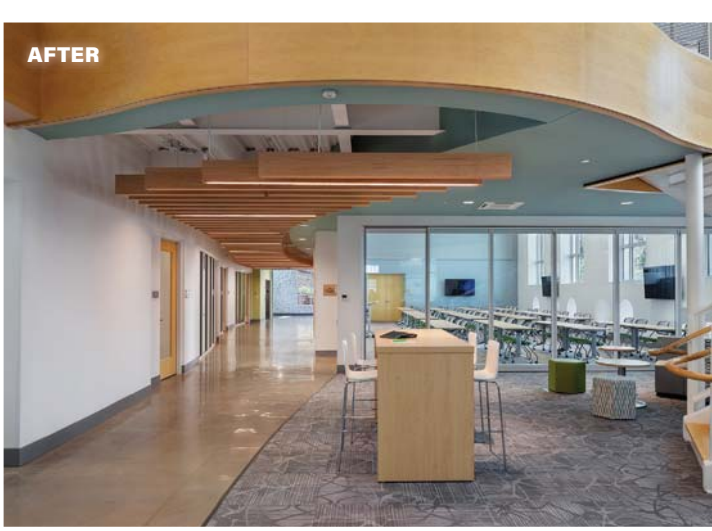
Cost/square foot
$347/sq. ft.

Completion
January 2022

Photographer
Rachel Paul Photography



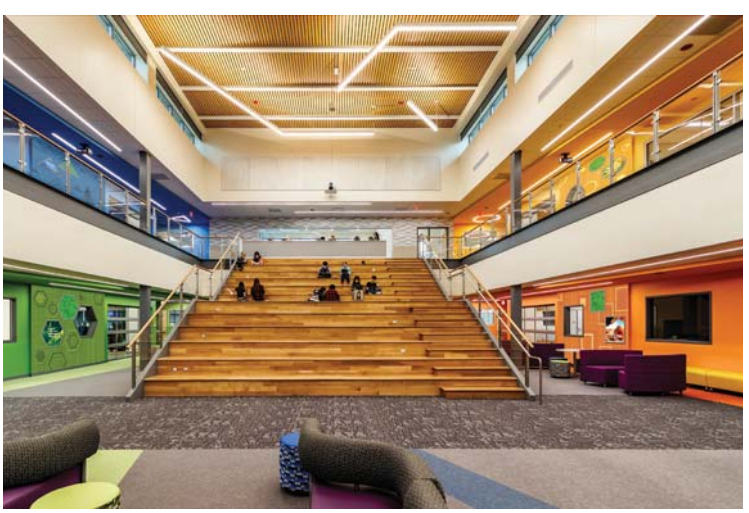




The Harpeth Hall School, a private, all-female, college-preparatory school, looked to re-imagine its underutilized 6,600-square-foot gymnasium space. Centered between the school's humanities and STEM buildings, the new 13,000-square-foot Bullard Bright IDEA (Innovation Design and Education in Action) Lab was designed to promote collaborative entrepreneurship and design among students. Transparency, accomplished through windows and glass walls, is a feature of the lab that is used to demonstrate that the creative process is often messy. Acoustics were considered throughout the design, and the spaces include markable and tackable walls and moveable furnishings and walls for flexibility. The lab includes a maker space, robotics classroom with retractable field, teaching kitchen, green-screen podcast studio, study and loft space, and lecture hall for 125.

The access to innovative resources enables faculty and students to take part in hands-on creation and affirms the school's commitment to leading-edge teaching and learning.

NEW WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Schiller Park, Illinois



DLA Architects Ltd.

Associated firms: WT Group; Pease Borst & Associates; Berg Engineering Consultants; Edge Associates; Hamilton AV Design; Soundscape Engineering; Hitchcock Design Group; Sam Schwartz Consulting; Schultz Squared Architects

Client
Schiller Park School District 81

Project area
18,306 sq. ft.

Project cost
$6,333,876

Project cost/square foot
$346/sq. ft.

Total area
68,000 sq. ft.

Total cost
$23,495,676

Total cost/square foot
$346/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2022

Photographer
DLA Architects Ltd./ Alexander Romanovsky

"The project demonstrates a clarity of purpose. Good use of color and playful shapes...and a slide!"

—2022 JURY

The Schiller Park School District passed a referendum in early 2020 to replace its existing 50+-year-old Washington Elementary School. Enrollment had increased by 33% since 2008, and the aging building was operating above capacity. The new facility needed to be a flexible 21st-century learning environment that encourages innovation and collaboration.

The referendum passed just as the Covid-19 pandemic was starting. The entire visioning and design process took place during the pandemic. The design team adapted to facilitating this essential and informative phase of the design process virtually through interactive and engaging meetings with a variety of stakeholders.

The central media center features a learning stair amphitheater for large group presentations. Multiple nooks and adjacent spaces provide access to differentiated learning. Quiet spaces accommodate personalized independent learning. A slide descends from the second to the first floor. It is a reminder that this is a place for children. It supports the vision for creating a playful, joyful and happy learning environment.

Perkins Eastman DC

Benjamin Banneker Academic High School

Washington, District of Columbia.....p. 24

"The open tiered library spaces work well within this building structure. The clarity of organization is strong, and the narrative matches the imagery and aesthetic of an institution of higher education."

—2022 jury

Perkins Eastman DC

John Lewis Elementary School

Washington, District of Columbia.....p. 25

"It's impressive that such beautifully designed spaces can also dramatically reduce energy and create one of the healthiest, highest-performing schools in the country."

—2022 jury

BENJAMIN BANNEKER ACADEMIC HIGH SCHOOL
Washington, District of Columbia

> "The open tiered library spaces work well within this building structure. The clarity of organization is strong, and the narrative matches the imagery and aesthetic of an institution of higher education."
>
> —2022 JURY

Benjamin Banneker Academic High School is one of the highest-performing public schools in Washington, D.C. Accordingly, the new building is designed to foster its strong culture, provide state-of-the-art labs and instructional spaces, and create a collegiate ambiance that will provide a transitional environment to the next step in a life of inspired learning. To create this ambiance, the Learning Commons—a dynamic and collaborative evolution of the library—functions as the literal and figurative heart of the school. Skylights suffuse each level with natural light, and generous interior glazing in adjacent instructional spaces enables that light to supplement the daylight that enters through exterior windows.

By visibly honoring the achievements of its namesake, an African-American polymath who acquired great knowledge and skill despite the constraints imposed by an 18th-century society, the school hopes to inspire these already high-performing students to continue to strive for achievement.

The building's massing respects its historic neighbors and creates a balanced streetscape within its residential context. As the site is also a valued community open space, a dog park and a skate park have been integrated to create a campus that is truly the center of its community.

Perkins Eastman DC
Associated firm: Moody Nolan

Client
D.C. Department of General Services

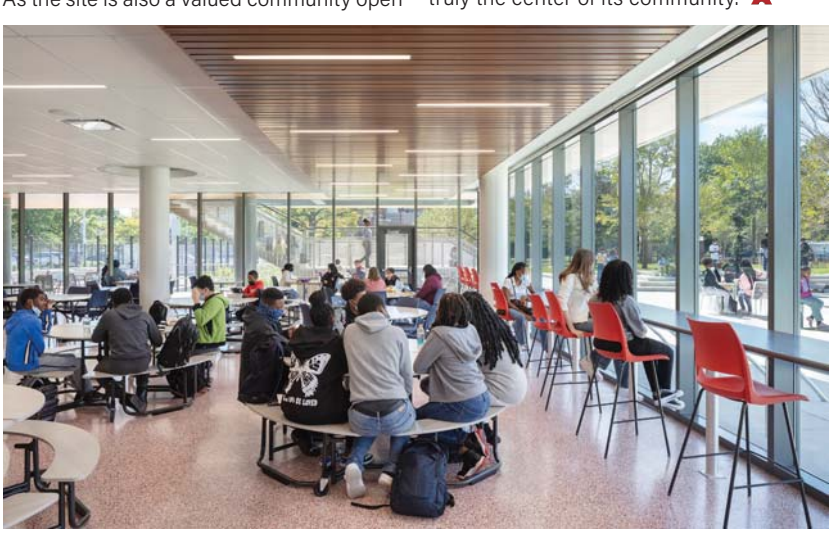
Project area
175,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$135,100,000

Cost/square foot
$772/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
©Joseph Romeo



JOHN LEWIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Washington, District of Columbia

> "It's impressive that such beautifully designed spaces can also dramatically reduce energy and create one of the healthiest, highest-performing schools in the country."
>
> —2022 JURY

John Lewis Elementary School was designed to be the world's first NZE, LEED Platinum, and WELL-certified school. Dramatically reducing energy to create one of the healthiest, highest-performing schools in the country, the design retains the flexibility and ease of communication that was beloved in the building that it replaced.

This flexibility is prominently seen in academic corridors, featuring overhead skylights and baffles that bleed into flexible learning spaces, accessible to each classroom through manual garage doors. Abundant daylight and references to the adjacent Rock Creek Park through organic textures, vibrant primary colors, and abstract tree canopies made from acoustic baffles further connect the school to its context and contribute to the school's unique character.

The library, the "heart of the school," acts as the central core of circulation, light, entry, and gathering. A large-scale mural designed and painted by local artist Mas Paz, who also had a beloved mural at the previous school building, has pride of place.

An interactive, online dashboard tracks the building's energy consumption, showcases the building's sustainability features, and links to the school's curriculum to address topics like climate change, water conservation, and social and environmental justice.

Perkins Eastman DC

Client
D.C. Department of General Services

Project area
90,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$77,500,000

Cost/square foot
Not provided

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
©Joseph Romeo

LWPB Architecture

Capps Middle School

Warr Acres, Oklahoma p. 27

"An intriguing project. Appreciate the learning community approach. It works really well architecturally and as an interior space."

—2022 jury

PBK

Redbud Elementary School

Round Rock, Texas p. 28

"Such a fun and inviting library space for the young learners to enjoy. A clear and fully executed concept based on natural motifs and connection to nature."

—2022 jury

CAPPS MIDDLE SCHOOL
Warr Acres, Oklahoma

Inspired by Henry David Thoreau's words, "I took a walk in the woods and came out taller than the trees," Capps Middle School connects students with nature.

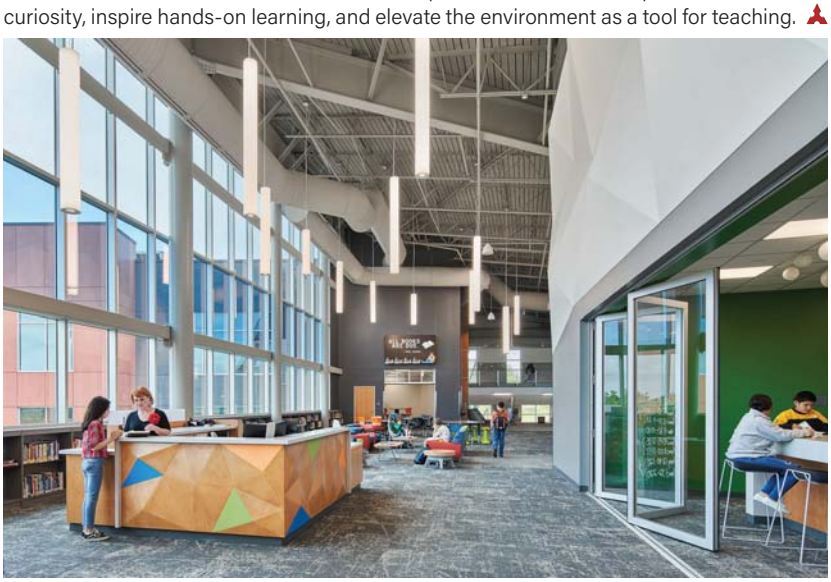
Influenced by its natural setting, the building bridges a creek. Spanning the water is a 250-foot bridge, an innovation hub incorporating media resources, maker labs and collaborative studios.

The creek's east bank houses three learning neighborhoods, supports inquiry-based learning, and facilitates student and teacher collaboration.

The primary learning studios have folding, glass partitions and open into shared, collaborative zones. Neighborhoods are arranged to maximize views of the creek, with a variety of community spaces arrayed along the creek. Ergonomic, mobile furnishings support the flexible architecture, as learners sculpt physical space to fit educational activities.

Each neighborhood is identifiably different and draws from the site strata—a lush green top layer, orange clay soil, and blue from the creek itself.

Interior materials, flexible furniture and expansive views create spaces that cultivate curiosity, inspire hands-on learning, and elevate the environment as a tool for teaching.



LWPB Architecture
Associated firm: DLR Group; Lingo Construction

Client
Putnam City Schools

Project area
83,637 sq. ft.

Project cost
$24,266,937

Project cost/square foot
$290/sq. ft.

Total area
171,767 sq. ft

Total cost
$49,837,500

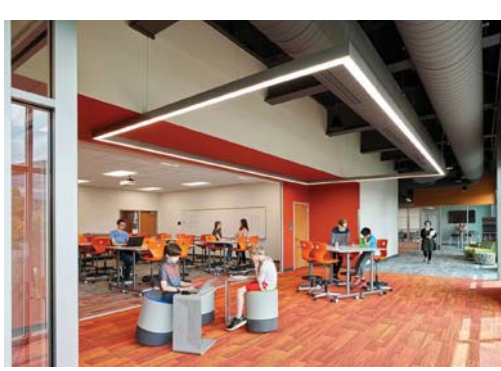
Total cost/square foot
$290/sq. ft.

Completion
July 2020

Photographer
Michael Robinson Photography

"An intriguing project. Appreciate the learning community approach. It works really well architecturally and as an interior space."

—2022 JURY



REDBUD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Round Rock, Texas

PBK

Client
Round Rock ISD

Project area
123,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$37,655,218

Cost/square foot
$306/sq. ft.

Completion
July 2021

Photographer
Wade Griffith

The school features inspiring organic forms, natural hues, graphics, and abundant natural light. The new learning environment serves 900 students in grades preK-5 in a variety of fun and creative spaces. Biophilic design was the design driver throughout, creating a sense of calm, emotional safety, and wellness for students and giving them a feeling of joy, discovery, and anticipation to explore and have fun while learning.

Natural forms connect students to features and patterns found in nature and improve their ability to focus and learn. In the library, students can gather in a leaf-shaped table, huddle over a book on a carpet with a grass-like texture or climb a wood bench surrounding the tree structure.

Down the main spine of the school, a tree, with a canopy of leaf-shaped ceiling clouds, creates a sense of warmth and protection of being under a living organism. The tree serves as the hub of campus activity. It is the gathering place where teachers hold group meetings, and students learn on their devices and read books inside its trunk.

"Such a fun and inviting library space for the young learners to enjoy. A clear and fully executed concept based on natural motifs and connection to nature."

—2022 JURY

Q&A with Henderson Engineers

Doug Everhart, PE, LEED AP, Community Sector K-12 Education Practice Director, Principal

Doug Everhart

Who is Henderson Engineers and what is your expertise within education?

We're a 100% employee-owned national building systems design firm that was founded in 1970 in Kansas City, Missouri. We have more than 1,000 employees nationwide across 12 offices and remote locations in more than 40 states. In addition to traditional offerings like mechanical, electrical, and plumbing design services, we're experts in designing building systems that provide technology, security, life safety, infection-control, and so much more.

Affiliated with Arizona State University, the Gary K. Herberger Young Scholars Academy in Glendale, Ariz., provides an advanced learning environment for gifted students in grades 7-12. Henderson Engineers led the building systems design to support a variety of the academy's project-based learning areas, which include a maker space, cutting-edge robotics lab, and drama and music classrooms.

In terms of K-12 and higher education, we design renovation and new construction projects for all kinds of learning environments including collaborative classrooms, simulation labs, career and technical education (CTE) institutions, early childhood facilities, performing arts auditoriums, administrative and transportation buildings, recreation centers, student unions, and athletics stadiums and arenas. Within K-12 specifically, we have worked on more than 900 projects in more than 150 school districts across the country. That includes longstanding working relationships with two of the top 10 largest school districts nationwide – Clark County School District in Las Vegas and Los Angeles Unified School District in LA. As for higher education, we've been involved in more than 550 projects on more than 100 campuses all over the U.S.

What is the driving force behind your long-running involvement in education?

As engineers, we have a deep love and appreciation for the power of learning, and that drives the thoughtfulness and care that we provide on education projects. In fact, our company's official vision is to "be the firm that builds a better world." In the same vein, our official purpose is to "…create environments where people can reach their full potential." At the heart of these objectives is a desire to have a positive impact, and what b etter way to do so than using our expertise to empower the next generation.

We understand how learning environments contribute to success for both students and educators, ultimately benefiting local communities and society overall by producing intelligent, well-educated, and career-ready citizens. We ourselves are eager to recruit such individuals to our firm to better our company, our clients, and our industry, so it is very relevant on a personal and professional level as well.

What emerging trends is Henderson seeing from the education projects you work on?

There's substantial growth of career-based programs as students, families, and institutions explore options beyond the traditional four-year high school to four-year university pipeline. This includes career and tech centers as well as innovation campuses. A great example is our Missouri Innovation Campus project in the Kansas City metro. That institution – a partnership between the University of Central Missouri and the R-7 Lee's Summit School District – allows high school juniors and seniors to earn an associate's degree in various in-demand fields including healthcare and computer science. That sets them up to earn a bachelor's degree just two years after graduating high school, saving substantial expenses. Another standout institution with a similar approach that we designed is the Gary K. Herberger Young Scholars Academy in Glendale, Arizona, which is affiliated with Arizona State University.

Like every facet of life, technology is a key driving force in education, and that's only been accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Streaming, online content, and a hybrid between virtual and in-person learning are now norms. Students and educators are of course more mobile, so being able to access lectures and projects from virtually everywhere is important. It also goes without saying that security concerns unfortunately remain top of mind given the continued violent attacks and mass shootings at schools. Access control and video surveillance systems that are properly integrated with building operations are therefore extremely crucial while also maintaining the human element that is important for student and faculty interaction. So, services like technology, audio-visual and sound reinforcement, acoustics, low-voltage system design, and electronic security system engineering that we have offered for a long time are increasingly coming into play as schools and colleges modernize.

The Henderson-designed, LEED Gold-certified expansion to Towson University's recreation center in Towson, Md., includes two multi-activity courts for volleyball, badminton, and Futsal, a state-of-the-art cycling studio, and a ninja warrior course.
Photo credit: Halkin Mason Photography.

The ongoing attention on aging infrastructure is also notable. Antiquated equipment that has been unattended to for a long time due to financing shortfalls is getting much-needed attention as more federal funds are directed toward upgrades. Our sister company, Henderson Building Solutions, has been an incredible asset to have on hand to provide the needed infrastructure expertise. As a construction management firm, building assessments, retrocommisioning, infrastructure upgrades, and the like is their forte. It's truly an exciting time within the education sector given how beneficial this growing focus on infrastructure will be for students and families nationwide.

HENDERSON ENGINEERS

HENDERSON BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Henderson Companies | Employee Owned

CONTACT
Doug Everhart
K-12 Education Practice Director
913-742-5397
doug.everhart@hendersonengineers.com

www.hendersonengineers.com
www.hendersonbuilding.com

ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS/OFFICES

Alleguez Architecture Inc.
The Center for Leadership at Florida International University
Miami, Florida ..... p. 36

Ruhnau Clarke Architects
San Bernardino City Unified School District Board of Education Building
San Bernardino, California ..... p. 37

McKinney York Architects
Texas School for the Deaf Administration and Welcome Center and Early Learning Center
Austin, Texas ..... p. 38

AUDITORIUMS/MUSIC ROOMS

Huckabee
Carroll ISD Fine Arts Complex
Southlake, Texas ..... p. 39

nonzero\architecture
The Choi Family Music Production Center at Occidental College
Los Angeles, California p.40

MA+ Architecture
Mustang Performing Arts Center
Mustang, Oklahoma ..... p. 41

CAFETERIAS/FOOD SERVICE AREAS

MHTN Architects
University of Utah Kahlert Village Dining
Salt Lake City, Utah ..... p. 42

BKP Architects
The MarketPlace
Washington, District of Columbia ..... p. 43

Ruhnau Clarke Architects
Saddleback High School, The Paseo
Santa Ana, California ..... p. 44

CAREER CENTERS

VCBO Architecture
Davis Catalyst Center
Kaysville, Utah ..... p. 45

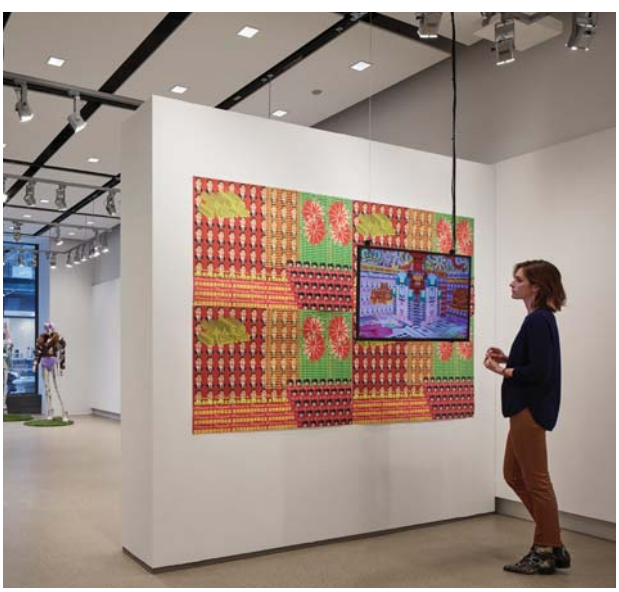
A4E (Architecture For Education Inc.)
Robert G. Freeman Center for Career and Completion
Pasadena, California ..... p. 46

CLASSROOMS

O'Connell Robertson
Ann Richards School
Austin, Texas ..... p. 47

Triad Architects
Delaware City Schools Renovations & Additions
Delaware, Ohio ..... p. 48

COMMON AREAS



EXHIBITION SPACES/GALLERIES

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES/TEACHING HOSPITALS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

INTERIOR RENOVATION

INTERIOR WORK IN PROGRESS

LABORATORIES

LIBRARIES/MEDIA CENTERS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FACILITIES/ RECREATION CENTERS

VCBO Architecture
Ben Lomond High School Athletic Center
Ogden, Utah ..... p. 96

Ruhnau Clarke Architects
Castaic High School Gymnasium
Castaic, California ..... p. 97

EwingCole
The Graham Athletics & Wellness Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ..... p. 98

FFKR Architects
Hillcrest High School Athletics
Midvale, Utah ..... p. 99

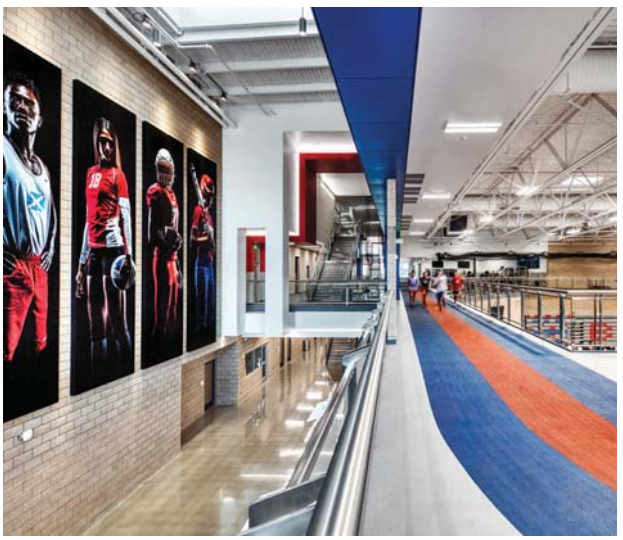
PRE-K/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Triad Architects
Lincoln Elementary School
Gahanna, Ohio ..... p. 100

McKinney York Architects
Texas School for the Deaf Administration and Welcome Center and Early Learning Center
Austin, Texas ..... p. 101

RESIDENCE HALLS/LOUNGES

Cordogan Clark Ittner
New Hall
Columbia, Missouri ..... p. 102



STUDENT CENTERS/SERVICE AREAS

Little Diversified Architectural Consulting Inc.
Campbell University, Oscar N. Harris Student Union
Buies Creek, North Carolina ..... p. 103

Huitt-Zollars
SMC Student Services Building
Santa Monica, California ..... p. 104

Wannemacher Jensen Architects Inc.
SPC Student Success Center
St. Petersburg, Florida ..... pp. 106-107

DIGroup Architecture LLC
Stony Brook University, UNITI Cultural Center
Stony Brook, New York ..... p. 108

TECHNOLOGY/STEM CENTERS

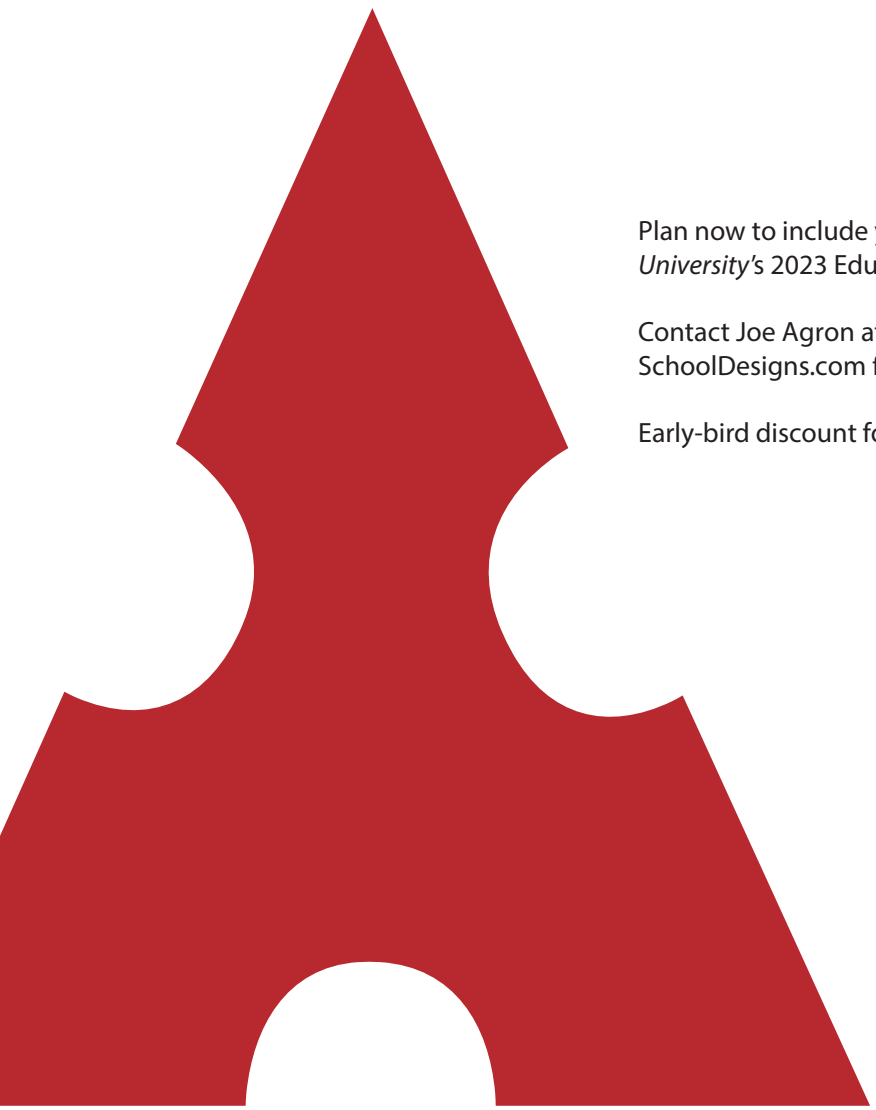
ATSR
Cathedral High School Addition and Renovations
St. Cloud, Minnesota ..... p. 109

Wannemacher Jensen Architects Inc.
NTCA New School
Wesley Chapel, Florida ..... pp. 110-111

VCBO Architecture
Science, Engineering & Technology Building
St. George, Utah ..... p. 112

Alleguez Architecture Inc.
STEM Transformational Institute at Florida International University
Miami, Florida ..... p. 113

SAVE THE DATE!
Educational Interiors Showcase 2023



Plan now to include your best projects in *American School & University*'s 2023 Educational Interiors Showcase.

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Early-bird discount for entry forms received by January 13.

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THE CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP AT FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Miami, Florida

Alleguez Architecture Inc.

Associated firms:
SGM Engineering Inc.;
Stobs Bros. Construction Co.

Client
Florida International University

Project area
2,830 sq. ft.

Project cost
$578,000

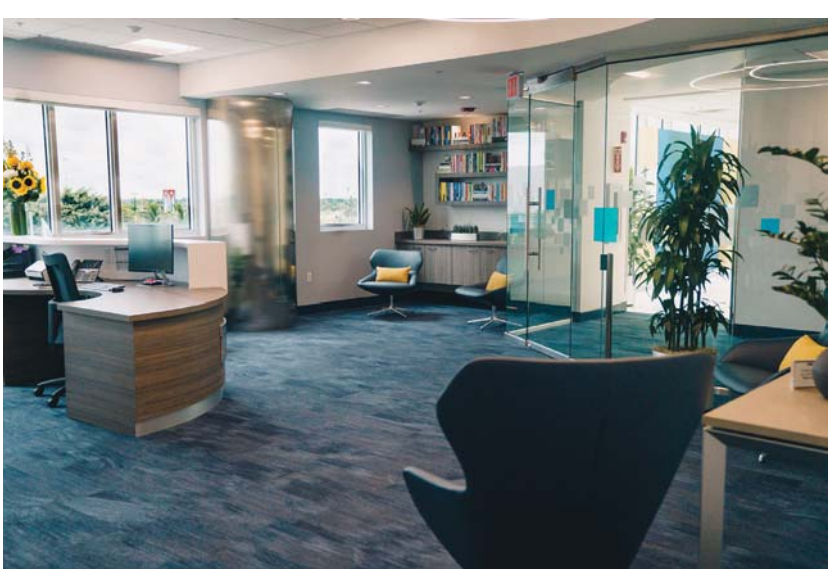
Cost/square foot
$204/sq. ft.

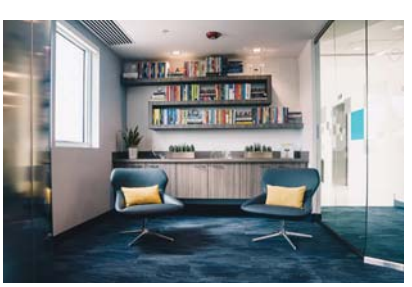
Completion
September 2019

Photographer
Florida International University

Inspired by the institution's vision and mission, Florida International University's Center for Leadership offices were created to "be a unique resource of leadership research and development, contributing to an increase of transformational leaders." The center seeks to develop leadership "that transforms and emboldens individuals and organizations to positively impact our world." The most crucial component of the design was considering how the composition of the workspace could influence employee productivity.

The Center for Leadership offices were designed to encourage best practices in leadership. They enhance employee morale and mental wellness by providing open, clean and inviting workspaces. The new space showcases a beautiful reception area with curved soffits and walls. High ceilings and glass partitions characterize the offices and conference rooms surrounding the open work area. A fresh color scheme and the inclusion of abundant natural lighting revitalized the dark maze-like space into an airy and energetic office.



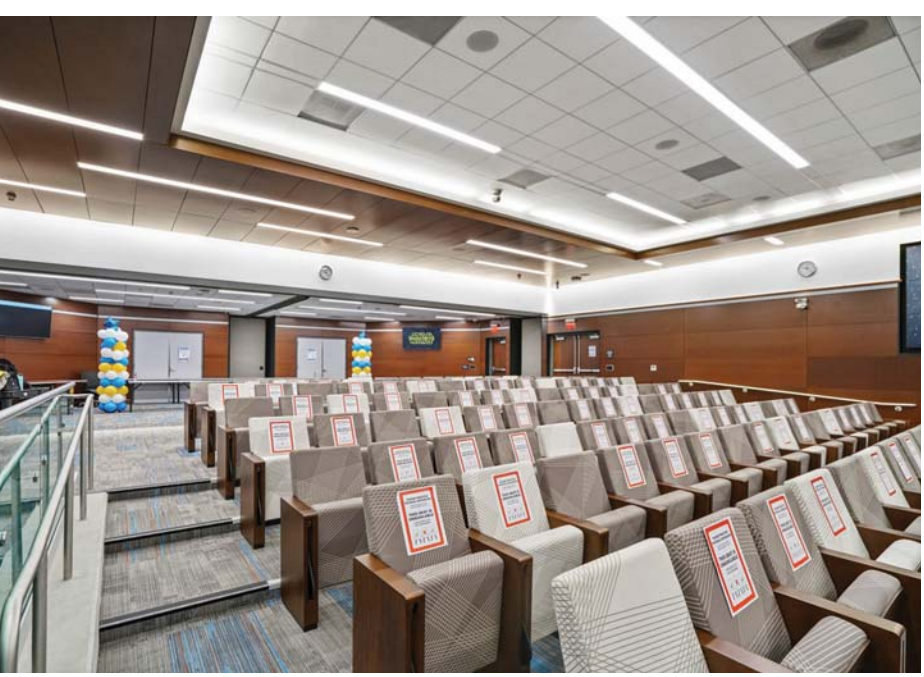


SAN BERNARDINO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING

San Bernardino, California

As the seventh-largest district in California, the San Bernardino City Unified School District had a Board of Education Building that was lacking the critical 21st-century infrastructure to serve the district and the community at large. As an urban district serving students and families of primarily low incomes, San Bernardino needed its administration building to have the flexibility for community members to hold meetings and events, supported by needed technology.

The new space is modern with high ceilings, wood accents and glass display cases for district schools and departments to showcase their latest achievements. Meeting and event rooms now have wireless AV technologies, and much-needed repairs and upgrades enable the entire building to meet up-to-date building standards. These upgrades offer a more inviting and educational atmosphere for parents and students visiting administrative offices.



Ruhnau Clarke Architects

Associated firm: D&M Martin Construction

Client
San Bernardino City Unified School District

Project area
48,039 sq. ft.

Project cost
$12,334,822

Cost/square foot
$257/sq. ft.

Completion
November 2019

Photographer
Not provided

TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF ADMINISTRATION AND WELCOME CENTER AND EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Austin, Texas

McKinney York Architects

Client
Texas School for the Deaf

Project area
66,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$13,600,000

Cost/square foot
$206/sq. ft.

Completion
December 2021

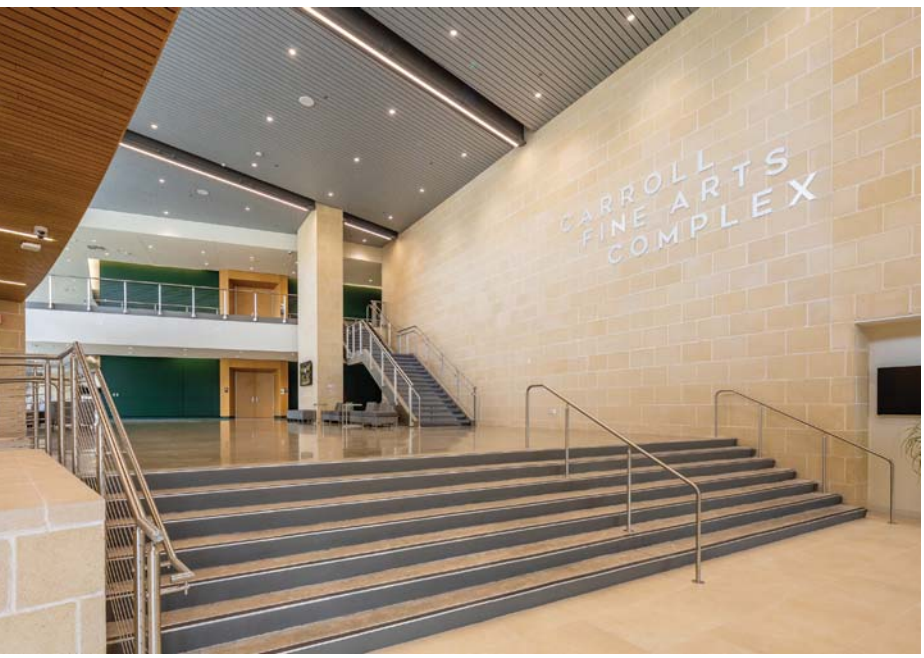
Photographer
Leonid Furmansky

Inspired by the interwoven volumes and voids formed by moving hands during sign language communication, the Texas School for the Deaf Welcome Center and Early Learning Center draws from both the school's rich heritage and its optimistic future.

Programmatic functions—from classrooms supporting the school's youngest students up to administrative spaces supporting the superintendent—are integrated in one location. They create a place that represents the fullness of the school's educational mission. Incorporated throughout the building are DeafSpace principles—formal guidelines developed by the deaf community to assist in creating environments inflected toward the unique experience of deafness. These include generous glazed areas, continuous sight lines, rounded circulation spaces, and concave shapes symbolizing gatherings in the round to facilitate signed communication.

The resulting project is simultaneously rooted in the school's past while actively engaging in a more equitable and inclusive future for the deaf community across the state.

CARROLL ISD FINE ARTS COMPLEX
Southlake, Texas



Project goals were to enhance the Carroll ISD's award-winning music programs, re-invigorate existing theater facilities and establish a striking presence for the collective fine arts program at Carroll Senior High School. The project also unified the existing art building and main building with a multifunctional, fine arts commons. Components of the Carroll ISD Fine Arts Complex include a music hall; band hall; and rehearsal space for ensemble, jazz, choir and percussion.

The centerpiece is the music hall; its gem-inspired shape rises above the building and illuminates, highlighting the green tones that represent the Carroll ISD community. The hued panels continue inside, creating an illusion of a jewel in a box. The bold green brand, combined with elegant design elements, establishes a unique identity.

The music hall offers fixed seating on two levels for 700 patrons; a flexible stage allows for increased capacity. Acoustics support a range of performance types and ensemble sizes; moving ceiling reflectors change the volume of the space with additional absorption provided by architectural elements. The use of wood is comforting and sophisticated.

Huckabee
Associated firms: Muckleroy & Falls; Image Engineering Group; WJHW; Langan Engineering; LA Fuess Partners; Wharry Engineering

Client
Carroll ISD

Project area
70,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$28,387,006

Cost/square foot
$406/sq. ft.

Completion
July 2021

Photographer
Not provided

THE CHOI FAMILY MUSIC PRODUCTION CENTER AT OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE

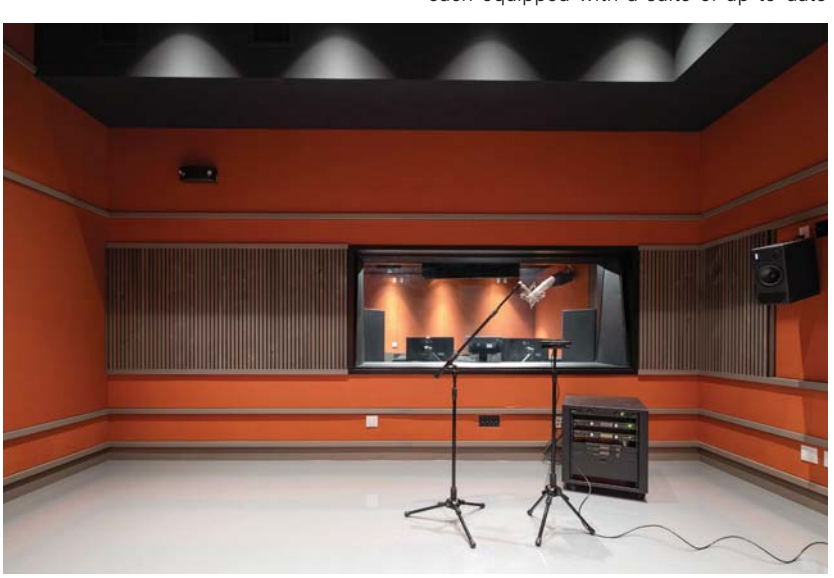
Los Angeles, California

Situated in the college's Booth Hall music school building, the new facility replaces an increasingly rarely used music library.

The architectural program placed in the basement space includes a fully operational recording studio, a connected adjacent control room and a 16-student music and media computer lab, as well as auxiliary spaces and offices. The high ceilings were ideal for the acoustics of the planned spaces. The partially subterranean location helped create an efficient soundproofing scheme. Interior acoustic treatment was added in the form of vertical wood strips and fabric panels, mostly in the vibrant orange colors of the university.

The control room layout enables students to sit in on professional recording sessions. During class lectures in the room, students are actively engaged, taking turns in the captain's chair, setting up microphones in the tracking room, and assisting with the engineering.

The production lab has an instructor's lectern desk and 16 student computers, each equipped with a suite of up-to-date software. A connected isolation booth enables students to record voices and individual instruments.



nonzero\architecture

Client
Occidental College

Project area
2,162 sq. ft.

Project cost
$1,195,817

Cost/square foot
$553/sq. ft.

Completion
September 2021

Photographer
Taiyo Watanabe; Peter Grueneisen

MUSTANG PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Mustang, Oklahoma

MA+ Architecture

Client
Mustang Public Schools

Project area
58,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$20,000,000

Cost/square foot
$345/sq. ft.

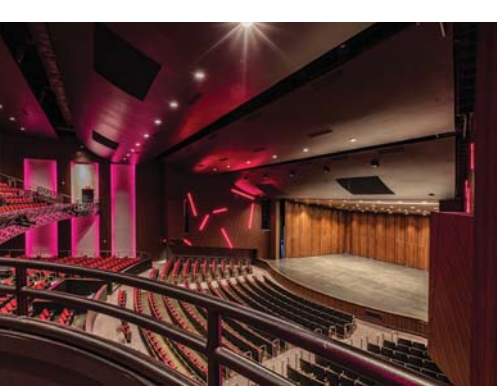
Completion
July 2021

Photographer
ERB Architectural Photography

Situated on the Mustang High School campus, the Mustang Performing Arts Center offers first-class experiences for audience members, operators, performers, staff, and students alike. This top-quality education space fulfills Mustang Public Schools' desire to help lead students toward a variety of career paths within the performing arts field.

As the primary location for performing arts events for the school district and surrounding community, this facility houses the district's high school performing arts programs and is designed to host a variety of events and professional performers.

Entry lobbies support smaller-scale productions, and the main lobby also features a student artwork gallery. Two theaters—the primary 1,500-seat auditorium and the secondary black box-style theater—are supported by a scene shop and a music library storage area along with a multitude of classrooms, a catering kitchen, costume storage, dressing rooms, rehearsal spaces, and support areas for students and performers.



UNIVERSITY OF UTAH KAHLERT VILLAGE DINING

Salt Lake City, Utah

MHTN Architects

Associated firms: TreanorHL; Ricca Design Studios

Client
University of Utah

Project area
30,643 sq. ft.

Project cost
Not provided

Total area
344,510 sq. ft.

Total cost
$83,342,000

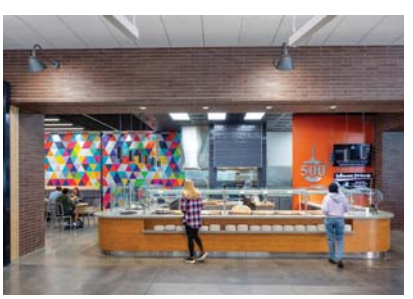
Completion
August 2020

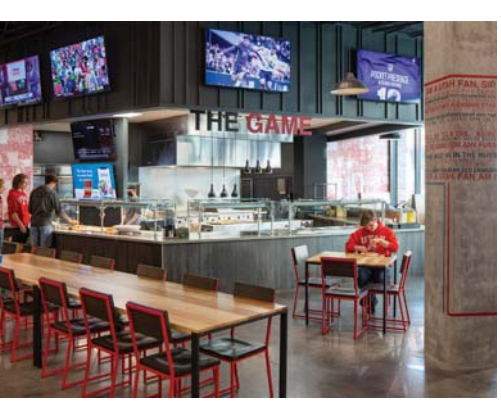
Photographer
Paul Richer/Richer Images

Kahlert Village is the University of Utah's newest on-campus residential community. It is designed to promote collaborative learning and sustainable living experiences for first-year students. Three five-story wings are made up of themed communities: First-Year Honors, STEM Initiatives, Health & Wellness, and Community Engagement.

The Village's main floor is a highly transparent open hub with a variety of social, classroom, and study spaces; the bustling 700-seat Urban Bytes dining facility is a major highlight. Urban Bytes features unique offerings and individual styles with eight distinct and identifiable zones. This design creates a vibrant and dynamic dining environment with a multitude of food choices. The zones are designed with custom graphics, branded architectural elements, and special details throughout.

A variety of seating and tables enables students to choose the space that works best for their needs. The spaces engage the student communities, particularly around nutrition and demonstration cooking, and are available to all on campus. The dining area connects to an active courtyard environment through its inviting and transparent design.





THE MARKETPLACE
Washington, District of Columbia

BKP renovated five spaces in the I. King Jordan Student Activities Center at Gallaudet University. One of them is the MarketPlace, a 20-year-old retail outlet.

As a world-renowned institute for the deaf and hard of hearing, Gallaudet has been a trailblazer in changing the ways that the architecture and design industry engages with the needs of the deaf community.

BKP incorporated DeafSpace principles as well as universal design principles, ADA regulations, and sustainable features in the new design. From materials for furniture making, to solid color selections and sightlines, every detail is crafted for a multisensory experience. New millwork and layout ease queuing congestion and increase the number of food options. New lighting and finishes bring to life the formerly dark space.

The new MarketPlace features exciting food options, including brick oven pizza, dedicated Grab and Go, Global Fusion and Noodle Bar.

Floor tiles with contrasting color and texture are incorporated to aid with wayfinding. Clear sightlines and solid colors minimalize visual distraction and facilitate ASL communications.

BKP Architects

Client
Gallaudet University

Project area
3,600 sq. ft.

Project cost
Not provided

Completion
October 2020

Images
Jeffrey Totaro; BKP Architects

SADDLEBACK HIGH SCHOOL, THE PASEO
Santa Ana, California

Ruhnau Clarke Architects

Client
Santa Ana Unified School District

Project area
12,535 sq. ft.

Project cost
$8,400,000

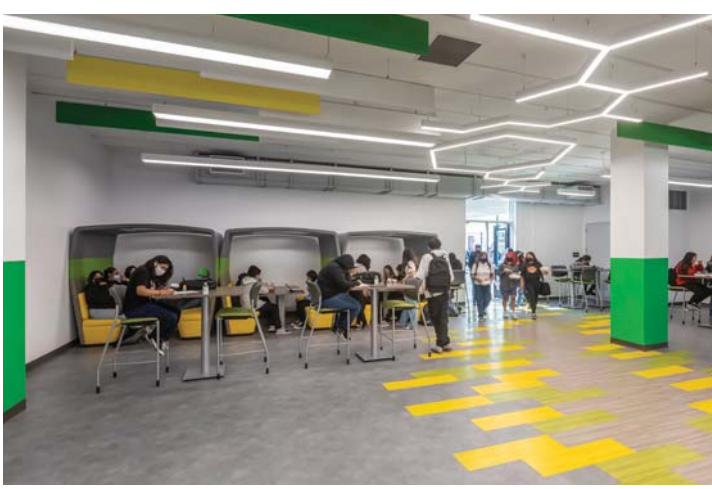
Cost/square foot
$670/sq. ft.

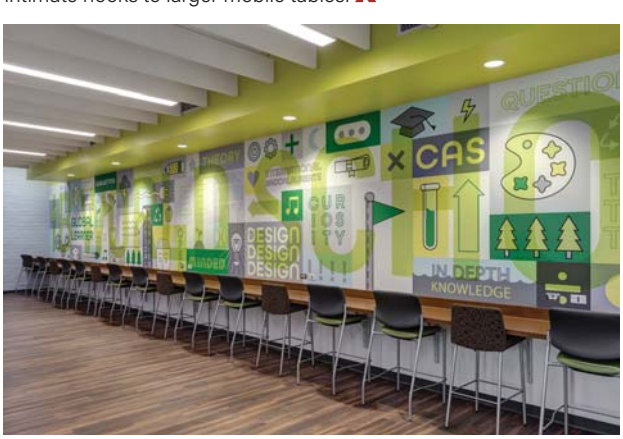
Completion
May 2021

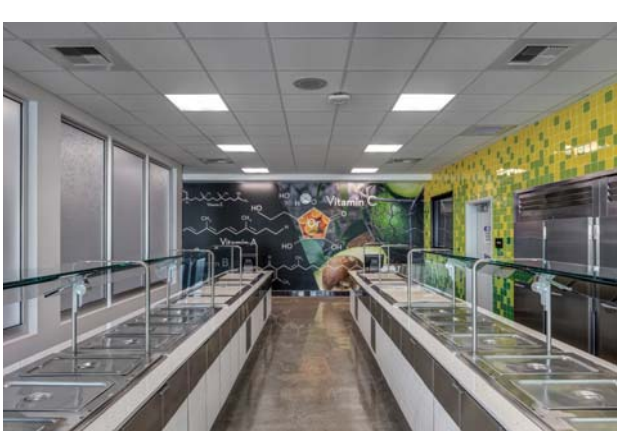
Photographer
Ruhnau Clarke Architects

The existing cafeteria at Saddleback High School was crowded and uncomfortable for students, contributing to various social problems at the campus. The goal was to not only upgrade the kitchen and better prepare and serve healthful meals, but also create an environment that would contribute to peaceful student gathering and promote social emotional wellness in an inspiring and user-centric facility.

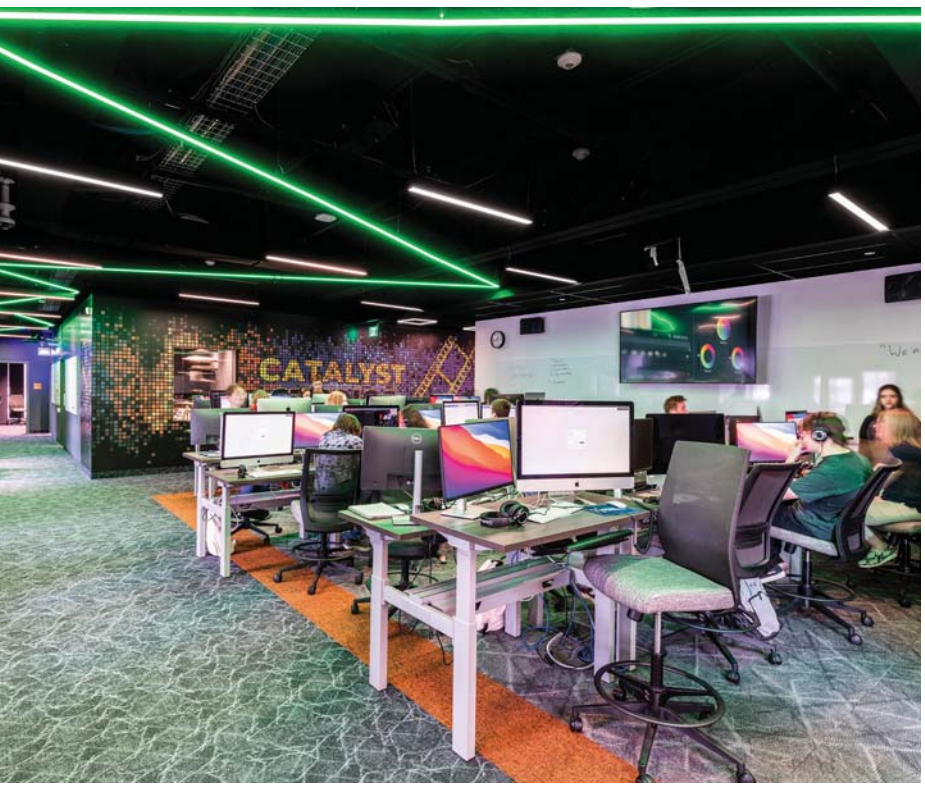
Hexagon shapes reminiscent of campuswide graphics were incorporated into lighting fixtures, and vibrant colors inspired by vegetables and farmers markets were unleashed in a space originally void of color. Visual textures through flooring patterns and acoustical ceiling blades serve as a nod to meandering paths in orange groves and integrate the building with the overall campus fabric and the community. To transform the space into a fresh social gathering spot for students and teachers, food science is celebrated through custom graphics and a branded name, The Paseo. Flexible seating options give students the opportunity to gather in a variety of scaled settings, from more intimate nooks to larger mobile tables.







DAVIS CATALYST CENTER
Kaysville, Utah



VCBO Architecture

Client
Davis School District

Project area
37,717 sq. ft.

Project cost
$7,836,262

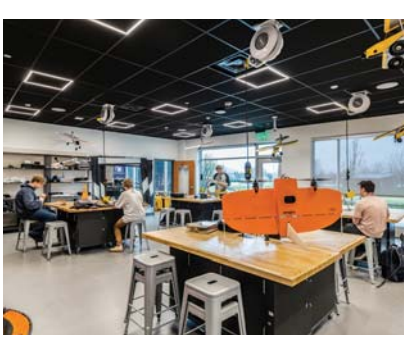
Cost/square foot
$208/sq. ft.

Completion
December 2021

Photographer
Sam Reed Photography

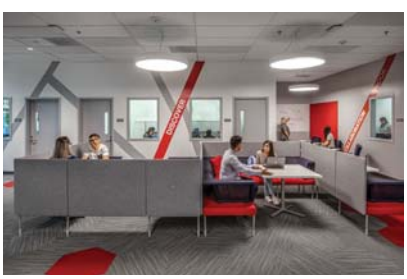
The Catalyst Center is a new magnet school for 11th and 12th graders in the Davis School District. This facility offers high-level specialty career and technical courses, designed with industry partners. It provides students an opportunity to work on real-world projects. For Phase One of the project, the district purchased a two-story office building and remodeled it to house eight innovative programs: audio/video (A/V) production, unmanned aircraft, culinary arts (including a student-operated café and catering), cybersecurity, game design, entrepreneurship, medical assisting, and pharmaceutical assisting.

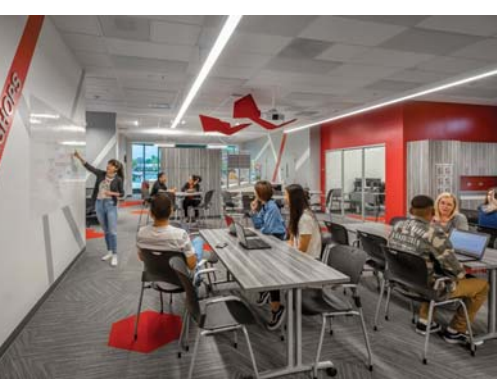
The premise for the design was to create the most realistic simulation of the professional workplace for each discipline. For example, the design team discovered that the A/V industry no longer uses a green screen for filming; instead, an LED screen is used to create realistic settings for production. This project includes a curved 10-foot-by-20-foot LED array in the studio. The medical exam rooms are replicas of those designed for the local medical industry, and the retail and hospital pharmacies replicate reality.



ROBERT G. FREEMAN CENTER FOR CAREER AND COMPLETION

Pasadena, California





Pasadena City College wanted to transform an underused and outdated office space into a dynamic student-focused center. Inspired by the multitude of paths students can take to find their passion and career, the design of the Robert G. Freeman Center for Career and Completion reflects a journey of discovery through a "roadmap" theme with three physical zones of interaction:

- Inquisition: Students are greeted by an open and bright welcome center with a genius-bar-type atmosphere and direct sight lines into the workshop space.
- Exploration: The central workshop zone is flexible and multifunctional with agile furniture and integrated technology. It plays host to varying sizes of group meetings, lectures, and presentations.
- Facilitation: Designed to promote safety and trust, mentoring activities are supported by semi-private meeting booths that transition to one-on-one glass-front counselors' offices.

Design features of the new center include fluid navigation between zones supported by unique flooring patterns, wall graphics, writeable surfaces, collaboration nooks, and acoustical treatments that create hierarchy at the ceiling plane for visual interest and subtle division of the space.

A4E (Architecture for Education Inc.)

Client
Pasadena City College

Project area
4,217 sq. ft.

Project cost
$641,190

Cost/square foot
$152/sq. ft.

Completion
January 2020

Photographer
Not provided

ANN RICHARDS SCHOOL
Austin, Texas

O'Connell Robertson

Client
Austin Independent School District

Project area
183,800 sq. ft.

Project cost
$57,000,000

Cost/square foot
$310/sq. ft.

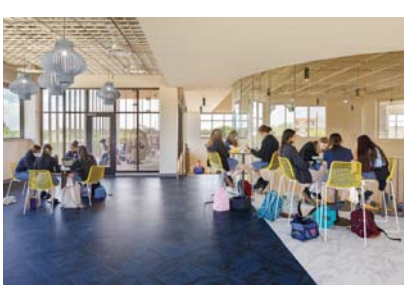
Completion
October 2021

Photographer
Sterling E. Stevens

The Ann Richards School's new building is an innovative and inspiring learning environment developed with the school's core values and distinctive STEM/Maker culture in mind. Flexibility was critical to support existing programs and to allow for future curricular and instructional changes. Folding classroom walls and careful furniture selections provide a variety of types and sizes of learning spaces for maximum flexibility.

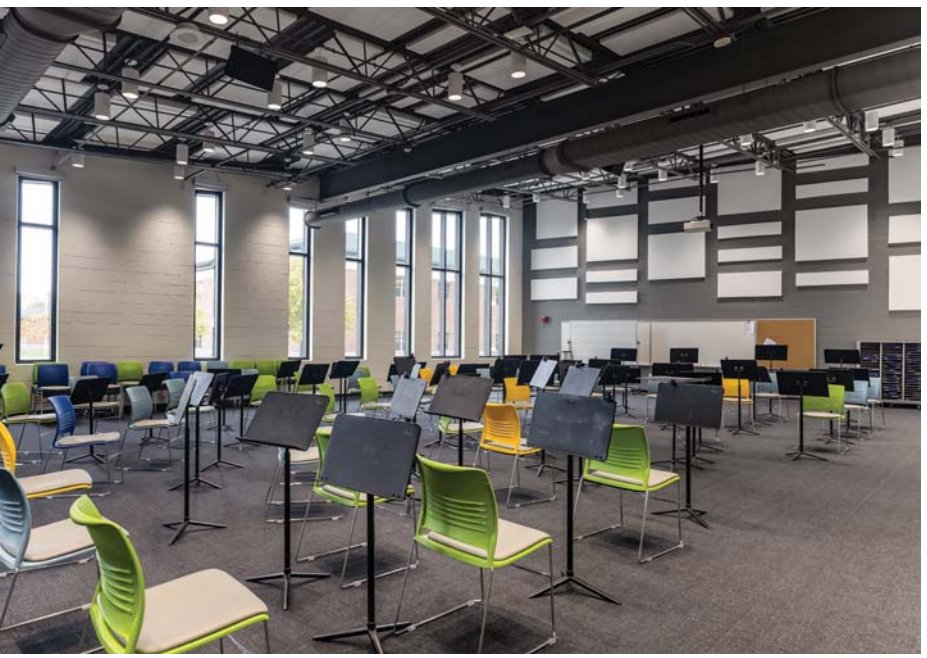
"Neighborhoods" were created for each grade level; they can expand nimbly as needs change. The design and construction teams chose partitions that can withstand the ebbs and flows of a flexible learning environment. All instructional spaces support a variety of technology, and each neighborhood has a collaboration area and access to the outdoors. The library, multiple maker spaces, and science labs provide additional areas for STEM-based instruction.

The challenge of designing and building a comprehensive facility within an active community and school site was met through development of a well-coordinated and phased construction plan that took into account the school schedule, including testing, sports seasons, and holidays.



DELAWARE CITY SCHOOLS RENOVATIONS & ADDITIONS

Delaware, Ohio



This project involved additions and renovations at three schools in the Delaware City School District in order to handle additional student capacity.

At Dempsey Middle School, the district desired to increase classroom capacity. Another important portion of the facility upgrade involved creating a separate orchestra room. Previously, the school had a single space shared by both the band and orchestra. The school also had a need for group restrooms and a concessions room situated closer to its football stadium. An addition was built onto the back of the school to provide these restrooms and a concessions area.

At Carlisle Elementary School, the school had a hidden front entry. Another existing door was more prominent but was not a main entrance. The existing office also was situated in the building interior and didn't allow for a secured visitor entry point. In this project, a new front entrance addition and administration and clinic space were built in a more prominent location, closer to the parking lot and front bus drop-off loop. The previous office area was converted to special education classroom space.

At Schultz Elementary School, the student and staff population had expanded beyond capacity, so a 10-classroom addition was built. Existing portions of the school were renovated to move the art room away from the office area. The facility also needed a full preparation kitchen. An addition was constructed at the existing kitchen area to provide walk-in cooler and freezer units. The kitchen was renovated with additional food preparation and serving equipment.

Triad Architects Ltd.

Client
Delaware City School District

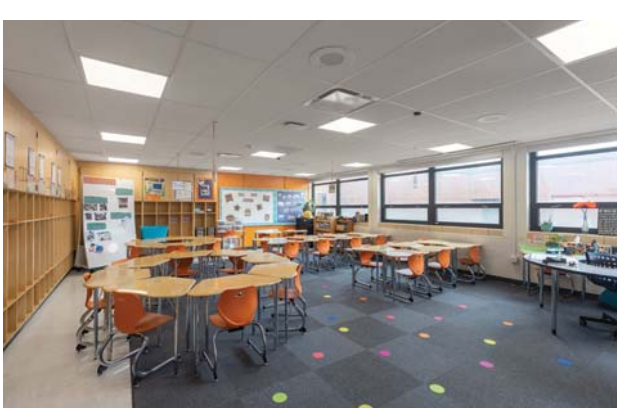
Project area
56,414 sq. ft.

Project cost
$11,784,400

Cost/square foot
$209/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

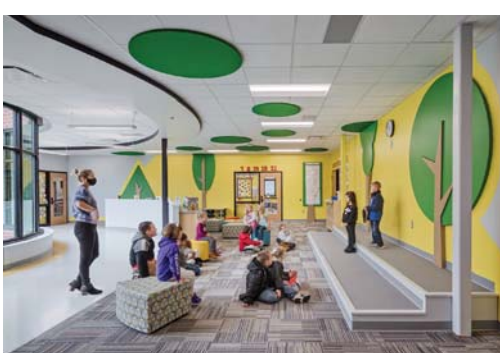
Photographer
Kate Horgan Photography



GREENON K-12 SCHOOL
Enon, Ohio

The core concept for Greenon K-12 school is the notion of redefining and unifying the classroom. No longer envisioned as four walls and a door, the "classroom" exists wherever the students are learning, playing, growing and becoming. These activities occur in spaces defined by walls, and in spaces bound only by the students' imagination.

Although the Extended Learning Area (ELA) is not a new concept, enabling it to be a conduit of learning between the more defined indoor spaces and the less defined outdoor spaces was a challenge when organizing the learning communities. Wrapping the indoor learning spaces around the ELA to define a learning community, and then wrapping the learning communities around an outdoor learning space offers Greenon students direct visual and physical connections from indoors to out. In addition to the efficiency gained by this organization, the students experience a healthy connection to their indoor and outdoor environments as they move throughout the school.



SHP

Client
Greenon Local School District

Project area
198,997 sq. ft.

Project cost of project entry category:
$50,600,000

Cost/square foot
$254/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
Cory Klein Photography

THE HARVEY SCHOOLS
Houston, Texas

Pfluger Architects

Client
Houston ISD

Project area
94,969 sq. ft. (750 students)
111,823 sq. ft. (1,000 students)

Project cost
$24,747,422 (750 students)
$26,145,277 (1,000 students)

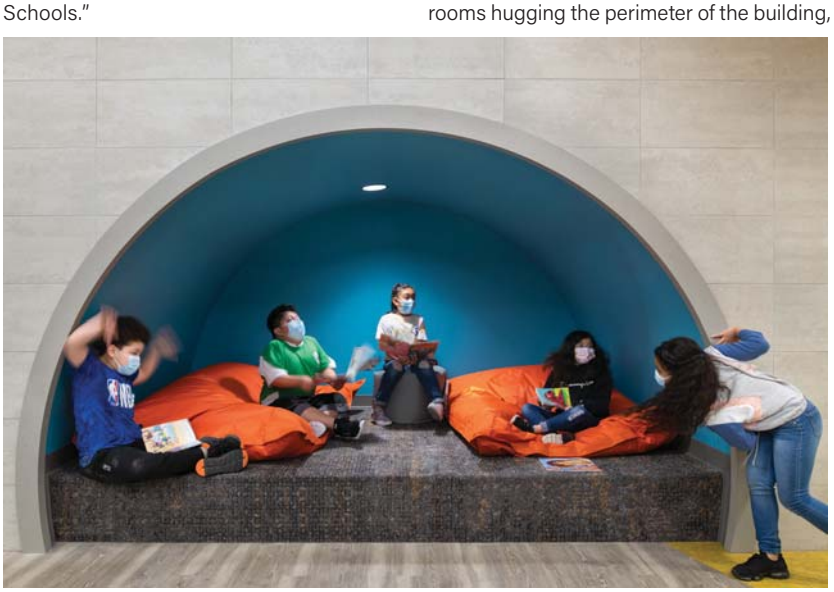
Completion
August 2020

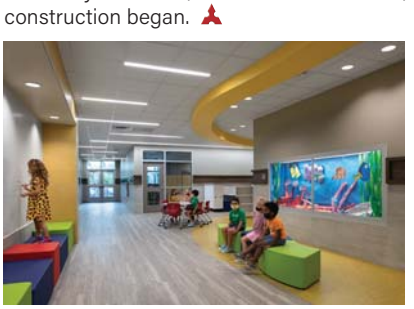
Photographer
Mariella and Luis Ayala

Hurricane Harvey ravaged Houston and left a devastating mark on nearly everything it touched. In four days, 100- and 500-year flood maps were rendered obsolete. The floodwaters had barely receded when Houston ISD determined that four neighborhood schools had to be razed and rebuilt: Braeburn, Kolter, Mitchell, and Scarborough—aka the "Harvey Schools."

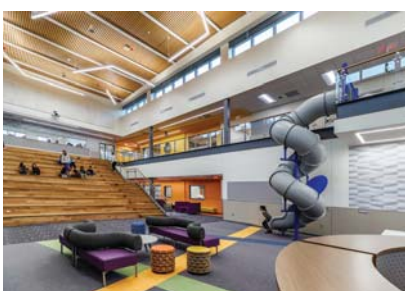
District program requirements called for extensive flexibility to accommodate evolving pedagogies and multiple approaches to education delivery. The district also needed a compact, scalable design with a price tag it could afford.

The design team had to address regulations that did not yet exist and would change, sometimes daily. The concept has classrooms hugging the perimeter of the building, providing daylight and views of the outdoors. The internal circulation creates space for various learning activities and includes an integrated, decentralized library, next-generation collaboration spaces, and individual reading nooks. Within three months, the resulting design was simultaneously sketched onto the four sites and submitted to the city for review, and three months later, construction began.





NEW WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Schiller Park, Illinois



The Schiller Park School District passed a referendum in early 2020 to replace its existing 50+-year-old Washington Elementary School. Enrollment had increased by 33% since 2008, and the aging building was operating above capacity. The new space needed to be a flexible 21st-century learning environment that encourages innovation and collaboration.

Each learning neighborhood is a central, flexible learning hub surrounded by four learning studios. Learning studios are a more intimate version of homerooms for students. They feature a variety of flexible furnishings to support student choice and multiple modes of learning.

The learning hub is a flexible environment. The design supports project-based learning and maker space functions. The homerooms and learning hubs promote independence and student-centered learning. Transparency enhances the sense of connectivity prioritized during the visioning process.

An operable garage door between the learning hubs and media center enables learning to permeate into the heart of the school.

DLA Architects Ltd.

Associated firms: WT Group; Pease Borst & Associates; Berg Engineering Consultants; Edge Associates; Hamilton AV Design; Soundscape; Hitchcock Design Group; Sam Schwartz Consulting; Schultz Squared Architects

Client
Schiller Park School District 81

Project area	Project cost
17,840 sq. ft.	$6,048,080

Project cost/square foot
$346/sq. ft.

Total area	Total cost
68,000 sq. ft.	$23,495,676

Total cost/square foot
$346/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2022

Photographer
DLA Architects, Ltd./Alexander Romanovsky

SOUTH POINT ELEMENTARY
Washington, Missouri

Bond Architects

Client
Washington School District

Project area
78,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$19,000,000

Cost/square foot
$244/sq. ft.

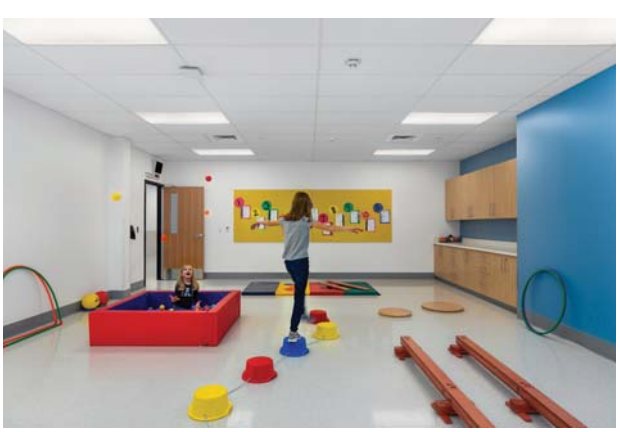
Completion
August 2021

Photographer
Front Door Media

Bond Architects has designed a dynamic, 78,000-square-foot elementary school for the School District of Washington. The new school features 21 classrooms for kindergarten through sixth grade, four classrooms dedicated to special education needs, and an age-appropriate STEM lab.

Classroom wings, arranged in "pods," prominently feature collaborative spaces. Large sliding doors between classrooms create opportunities for combined grade-level group work.

The design supports project-based learning while providing an option for more traditional teaching methods.



AUSTIN ISD SANCHEZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Austin, Texas

McKinney York Architects

Client
Austin Independent School District

Project area
80,341 sq. ft.

Project cost
$21,800,000

Cost/square foot
$272/sq. ft.

Completion
November 2021

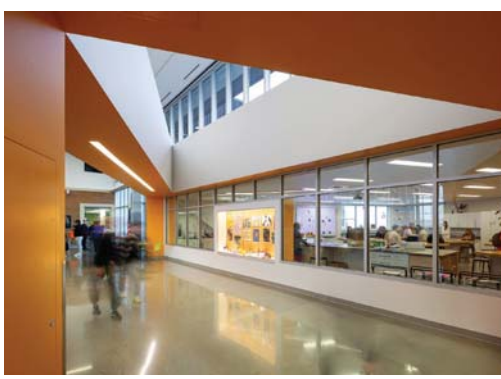
Photographer
Leonid Furmansky

The double-headed Aztec serpent represents duality—connection between past and future and a link between different worlds; because it sheds its skin, it expresses renewal, growth, and transformation. More than the school's mascot, the serpent is a fitting concept for the rejuvenation of Sánchez Elementary, which links a proud past with an optimistic future, and a neighborhood with the broader city. The facility transforms lives through education.

Situated between east Austin and the city's downtown, the school champions two-way dual-language education. Dual entries, connected by a central spine, welcome students arriving by bus, by car, or on foot. The spine provides an organizing axis and connects the gathering spaces and learning neighborhoods. It is lined with a striking serpentine skin that reveals itself on the exterior.

The result is an inclusive school that celebrates bilingual Spanish-English culture; reconciles historical East-West disparities; and embodies the community's voiced values of equity, flexibility, and connectivity.

GALLATIN HIGH SCHOOL
Bozeman, Montana



Gallatin High School was designed around the concept of a "town center" commons — a place where people come together for a variety of purposes aligned with creating a unified and interactive community.

The Town Center is a dynamic, shared space at the heart of the school. It represents the convergence of learning "streets," the primary social arteries linking the school together, which are widened to offer collaborative breakout spaces. The Town Center doubles as a food court and is surrounded by important community functions such as the administration offices (Town Hall), library, gym, auditorium, art gallery and coffee shop. The glass wall of the Town Center connects viewers with the Spanish Peaks to the southwest with a dramatic backdrop for expansive, creative thinking.

The Town Center serves as a unifying element both architecturally and socially. It's a place where all the school's communities and clubs come together to share and connect, and it serves as a vibrant, diverse area where students and educators can form bonds, strengthen relationships and hang out.

Cushing Terrell

Client
Bozeman Public Schools

Project area
18,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$4,618,440

Cost/square foot
$257/sq. ft.

Project area
304,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$78,000,000

Cost/square foot
$257/sq. ft.

Completion
July 2020

Photographer
Karl Neumann Photography

GOSHEN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
Goshen, Indiana

Barton Coe Vilamaa Architects & Engineers, Inc.

Client
Goshen Community Schools

Project area
190,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$44,900,000

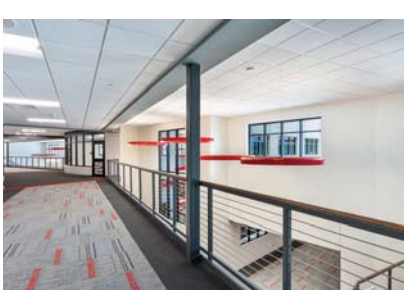
Cost/square foot
$236/sq. ft.

Completion
June 2021

Photographer
Al Ensley Photography

The Goshen Intermediate School project was conceived after months of study by a diverse group of stakeholders. They looked at the usage and capacity of the Goshen Community Schools' existing K-5 elementary school buildings and its 6-8 middle school building. With the assistance of Barton Coe Vilamaa Architects & Engineers, the study group recommended adding an intermediate school for grades 5-6 as a first step to alleviate space and capacity challenges at all K-8 buildings.

The district and architect worked closely throughout design and construction, evaluating multiple building concepts, materials systems and alternatives to balance the budget and the educational needs of the district. For example, precast concrete sandwich exterior wall panels were compared with traditional load-bearing masonry construction, and precast panels were chosen for multiple reasons. The result of this careful planning and collaboration was a project delivered on time and on budget while meeting all of the district's educational goals.



GREENACRES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS

Scarsdale, New York

The Scarsdale community came together to support a holistic approach to updating and expanding this K-5 elementary school. The debate had gone on for years but was resolved through an intensive process that evaluated the building and site's potential as a series of dynamic learning environments and community hub.

Every classroom learning environment was considered for its best role within the essentially "new" facility. The building was mapped out into learning zones that were then extended outward onto the surrounding property. Every programmatic element was developed as a part of the whole, complementing one another in order to improve the student experience.

Portions of the existing building were either removed, fully reconfigured, or renovated in place to achieve the stated goals. A building addition containing eight classrooms and learning commons complements the facility and provides flexibility, adaptability and thoughtful consideration of space. Students, faculty and community members are able to explore the possibilities and celebrate the uniqueness of each student in this welcoming facility and site.

BBS Architects, Landscape Architects & Engineers PC

Client
Scarsdale Union Free School District

Project area
21,308 sq. ft.

Project cost
$14,696,344

Cost/square foot
$690/sq. ft.

Completion
January 2021

Photographer
David Lamb Photography

IVAN G. SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Danvers, Massachusetts

Tappe Architects

Associated firms:
WT Rich; PMA Consultants; Frank Locker Educational Planning; Edvance Technology Design; Engineers Design Group

Client
Danvers Public Schools

Project area
82,719 sq. ft.

Project cost of project entry category
$40,678,125

Cost/square foot
$492/sq. ft.

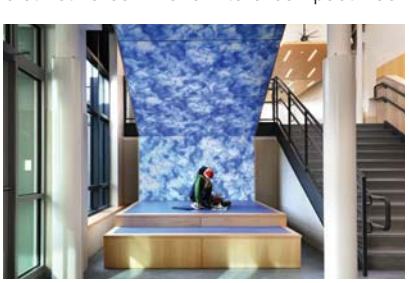
Completion
June 2021

Photographer
Ed Wonsek ArtWorks

Smith Elementary boasts a robust arts and music program where students express ideas and emotions as they develop creative thinking and problem-solving skills. The building integrates these creativity-focused courses with space for separated and combined learning as well as breakout and small group areas for the project-based curriculum.

A split-level design weaves the school's distinctive commons into a compact floor plan with generous sightlines and easily accessible after-hours spaces. Students enter through the soaring lobby, a welcoming and bright space as they prepare for a day of learning. The wide, gently curved corridor is flanked by folding glass partitions highlighting music and art. At the central axis, the building divides with views into the learning commons and STEAM lab. These shared areas celebrate the creative pedagogy by displaying projects and performances.

Expansive "learning corridor" hallways are visually clear, functional and engaging; acoustic linoleum flooring creates distinct zones. A two-sided stage connects the gymnasium and cafeteria for diverse events. Echoing the art-focused curriculum, sprawling graphics and distinctive colors and materials embellish throughout.



LOBBY ADDITION AT THE BRONXVILLE SCHOOL
Bronxville, New York

LAN Associates

Client
Bronxville Union Free School District

Project area
4,400 sq. ft.

Project cost
$2,100,000

Cost/square foot
Not provided

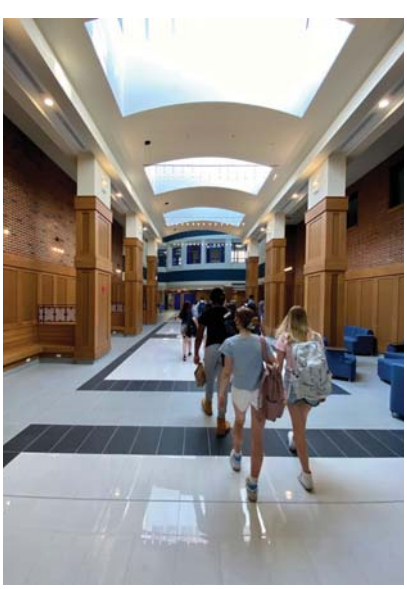
Completion
August 2021

Photographer
Keith Williams, LAN Associates

Since the Bronxville School was built in 1922, educational architecture has seen a significant paradigm shift. With the construction of a new entrance lobby, the century-old school now has a common area that both embraces modern modalities and maintains the structure's historical identity. The entrance addition and common areas were seamlessly integrated into the Collegiate Gothic brick façade and indoor aesthetic of the existing building. Interior wood trim as well as brick and stone were chosen to emulate some of the original building's detailing, which kept the modern addition sympathetic to the look and feel of the historic building.

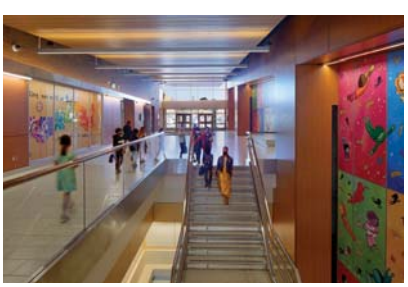
The 27-foot-tall ceiling provides a sense of openness, and the warmth and timelessness of the white-oak-paneled interior and movable seating nooks make the space feel cozy and customizable.

Ample daylighting is provided through large north-facing windows and a series of skylights puncturing the barrel-vaulted ceiling. The new entrance hall has quickly become a mainstay for students wishing to congregate and a unique work area for students to collaborate or engage in independent study.



MAJOR HOWARD W. BEAL SCHOOL
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

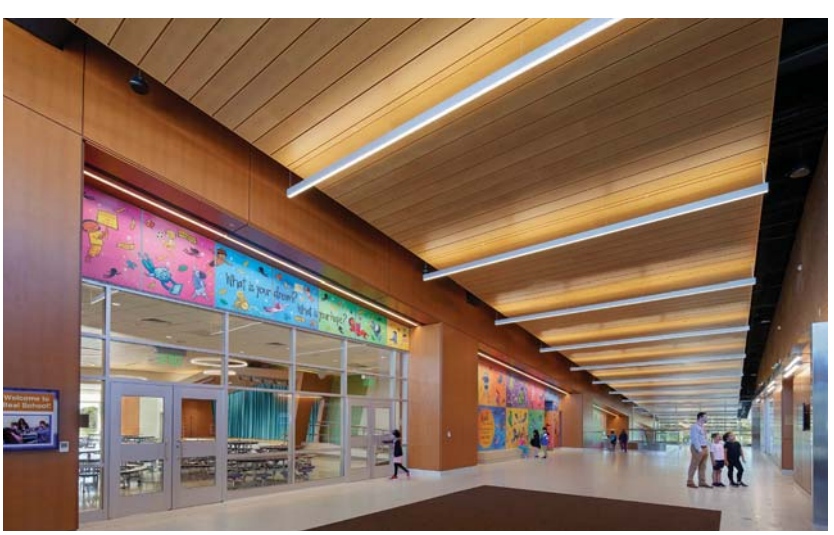
The new 790-student, K-4 Beal Elementary School replaced a 100-year-old facility. The district's project- and team-based instruction is now supported with flexible classroom spaces, technology-enabled common areas, and multiple accessible outdoor spaces to learn and play.



One desire of the district was to preserve a beloved mural from the previous school that had become a cultural touchstone for the community. Through a collaborative public-private partnership, artist Peter Reynolds was commissioned to create an expansive new mural inspired by his original piece that stretches along the primary entry lobby, sloping down to the lower-level media center; the shapes of the artwork are configured to fit the space they occupy.

This defining feature serves to create a welcoming environment where students see themselves represented in the diverse children depicted in the artwork. Words featured throughout the mural came from the community and are intended to inspire and to expand vocabularies.

"Color and shape really help stimulate the mind," said Peter Reynolds. "I wanted to create an uplifting mural and have it be colorful, diverse and full of joy."



Lamoureux Pagano Associates | Architects

Client
Shrewsbury Public Schools

Project area
142,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$73,002,085

Cost/square foot
$514/sq. ft.

Completion
July 2021

Photographer
Bruce T. Martin; Shannon Power

NEW 4/5 ELEMENTARY BUILDING
Coldwater, Michigan

The original elementary building no longer met the needs of the Coldwater school district and was set far outside the main part of the city. A new two-story building for grades 4 and 5 was completed in the center of town, near the middle school. The two grades are assigned to their own floors to create a natural separation. The main level of the building is zoned into classroom wings that can be separated for security purposes from the public spaces of the lobby, gymnasium, and cafeteria.

Classrooms are a standard design to provide consistency and flexibility for staff and students. Multipurpose instructional spaces, small group rooms, and adequate office spaces for itinerant staff were included to provide a variety of instruction options. All spaces are equipped with modern and flexible furniture that provides a high level of student comfort and the adaptability needed by staff to deliver education in a number of ways. Throughout the building, elements such as murals and signage are strategically placed to help reinforce school branding and celebrate "Cardinal Pride."

TowerPinkster

Client
Coldwater Community Schools

Project area
72,000 sq. ft.

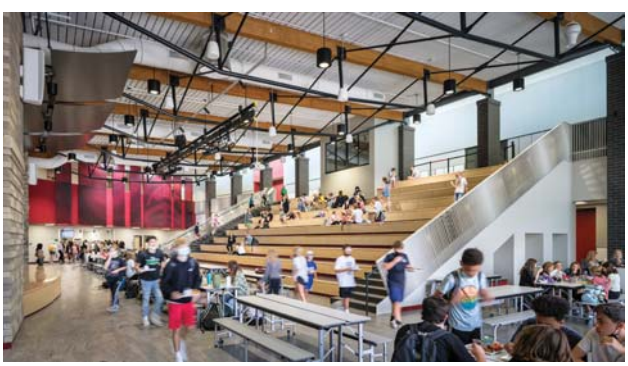
Project cost
$20,000,000

Cost/square foot
$278/sq. ft.

Completion
March 2021

Photographer
Jason Keen Photography

NEWTON MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPUS
Littleton, Colorado



Newton Middle School's design incorporates CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles throughout the campus, maximizing occupant safety while promoting best practices in 21st-century learning. The main entry vestibule is primarily glass, inviting bright light and a welcome feel for families while enhancing administrator lines of sight over the property. The glazing and frame consist of ballistic-rated material that provides a layer of protection for students and staff. The school's main hallway is curved—a whimsical design feature that interrupts a potential intruder's line of sight to the other end of the school. A joint cafeteria-auditorium, or "cafetorium," lies at the center of the school. Complete with large learning stairs that act as a gathering area for students and double as bleachers for the auditorium, this space is beaming with natural light, making it an inviting place for students to congregate. Each grade level pod was designed with centralized flexible learning spaces. Individual classrooms are equipped with large garage-style doors that can be opened so that learning may extend beyond the classroom.

Jacobs

Interior design firm:
RTA Architects
Associated firm: GH Phipps

Client
Littleton Public Schools

Project area
163,695 sq. ft.

Project cost
$59,874,450

Cost/square foot
$366/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
David Lauer

POTOMAC SHORES MIDDLE SCHOOL
Dumfries, Virginia

When booming enrollment required additional accommodations, Prince William County Public Schools (PWCPS) and Moseley Architects collaborated closely to re-imagine the middle school experience. Potomac Shores Middle School signifies a major departure from the district's previous traditional school prototype; it's a 21st-learning environment designed for world-class education.

PWCPS' enhanced career and technical education program warranted purpose-built spaces where it could flourish. Later to become acutely valued because of the need for social distancing, the building needed to bring people together through spaces for student collaboration and areas for community use.

With capacity for 1,450 students, the three-story configuration dedicates a floor level for each grade, with distinctive classrooms, extended learning spaces, and maker spaces. All maker spaces have direct access to outdoor learning environments for experiments, testing, and group work. A STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) lab comprises three connected spaces for preparation, production, and material storage. As the building's central hub, an expansive media center with soaring two-story windows invites an upward gaze into the sky of a world without limits.

Moseley Architects
Associated firms: Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson; V.F. Pavone Construction Company; Hoachlander Davis Photography; Foodservice Consultants Studio; Christopher Consultants

Client
Prince William County Public Schools

Project area
197,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$50,585,947

Project cost/square foot
$257/sq. ft.

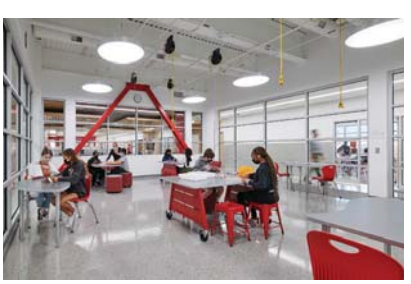
Total area
197,000 sq. ft.

Total cost
$55,295,298

Total cost/square foot
$280/sq. ft.

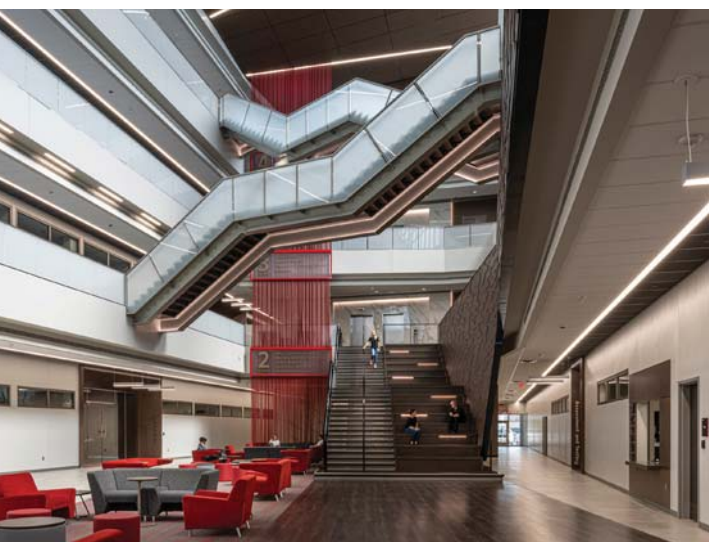
Completion
March 2021

Photographer
Hoachlander Davis Photography



TULSA TECHNOLOGY CENTER, LEMLEY MEMORIAL CAMPUS CLIENT SERVICE CENTER

Tulsa, Oklahoma



GH2 Architects

Client
Tulsa Technology Center

Project area	Project cost
12,800 sq. ft.	$3,415,000

Project cost/square foot
$266/sq. ft.

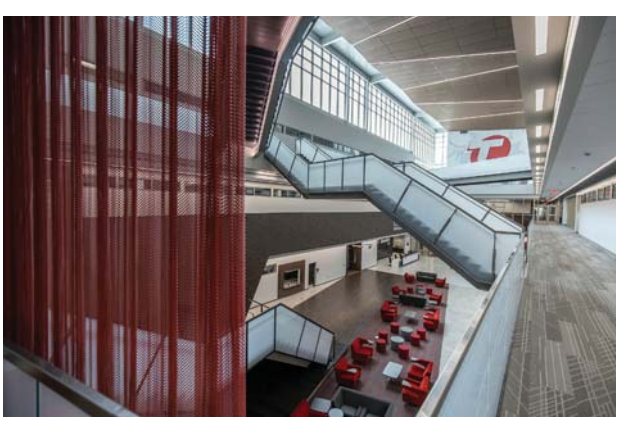
Total area	Total cost
195,000 sq. ft.	$52,000,000

Total cost/sq. ft.	Completion
$266/sq. ft.	January 2021

Photographer
Yellow Dog Design Works; Shane Bevel Photography

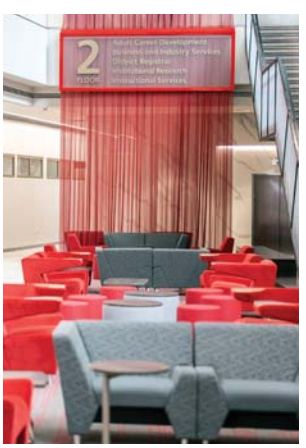
Tulsa Technology Center's Client Service Center returns all administrative functions—a blend of offices, student services, meeting spaces and the Business and Industry Training Center—to a single facility central to the district.

Each of the 14 departments and functions was eager to engage in a more integrated work environment.

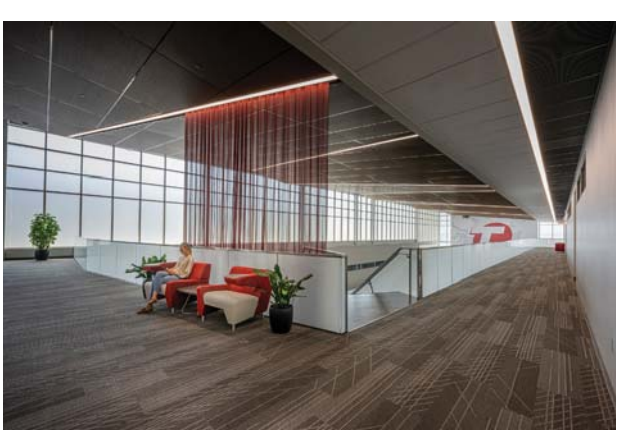


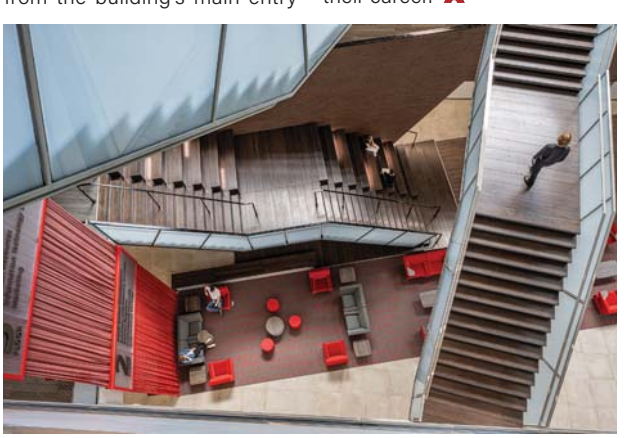
The atrium inspires this collaboration among administration, students and industry partners alike with a dynamic stair feature.

Several unique areas were created within the atrium space to cater to different interactions. From the soft seating and vast natural light of the third-floor communal seating ideal for studying to the seating integrated into the first-floor stair for a casual conversation, the space is suitable for all.

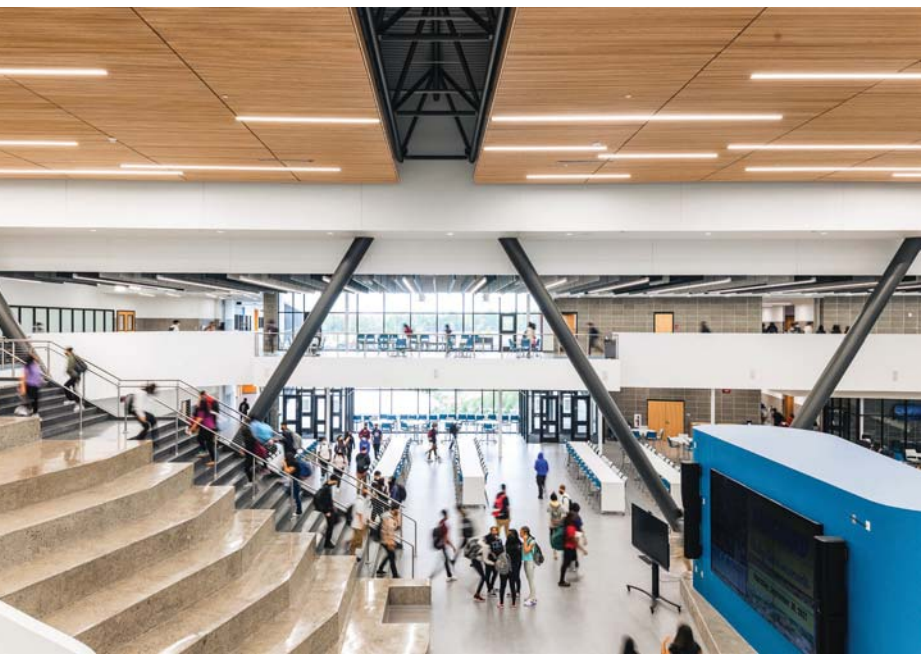


Each department is celebrated with an angled wood portal to identify a new point of arrival in a client's journey. These are organized in a consecutive path from the building's main entry around the atrium and back to the Business and Industry Center to signify the transition from clients' or students' education to their career.





VANGUARD HIGH SCHOOL
Mesquite, Texas



WRA Architects

Client
Mesquite Independent School District

Project area
264,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$66,700,000

Cost/square foot
$253/sq. ft.

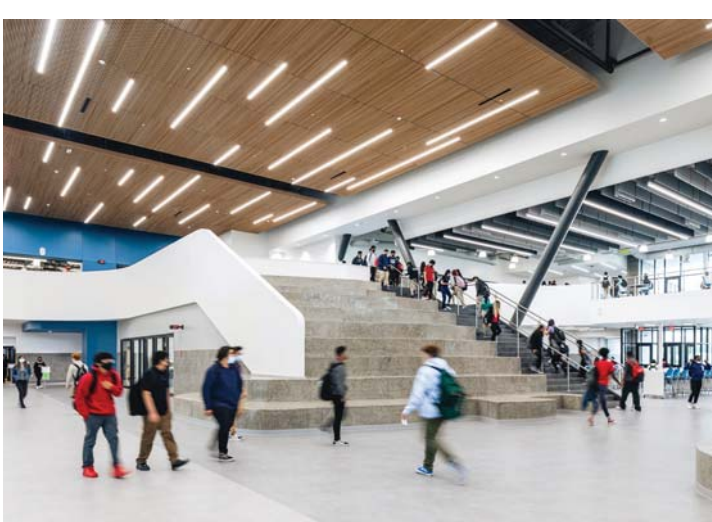
Completion
June 2021

Photographer
Parish Ruiz de Velasco

Envisioned to look more like a high-tech office complex than a traditional high school, this new concept serves 2,000 students from all over the Mesquite school district. Unlike the district's traditional high schools, Mesquite ISD's Vanguard High School does not offer extracurricular programs like fine arts and athletics; rather, the curriculum is intensely focused on academics and career or college preparation. The campus features four schools that offer the following programs:

- School of Engineering: auto collision; auto tech; engineering, robotics and logistics
- School of Technology: computer programming; graphic design; visualization and animation
- School of Health Sciences: dental assistant; EMT; medical assistant; pharmacy technician; sports medicine; simulation lab with nurse desk; and firefighter simulation.
- School of Construction Science: architecture and construction technology.

The campus has a central open commons area, four classroom wings, a walking trail, courtyards, and outdoor learning spaces.



WEST BOUNTIFUL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
West Bountiful, Utah

West Bountiful Elementary School has created an architectural icon for the Davis School District and the surrounding community. The two-level elementary is a next-generation learning environment with open collaboration spaces that promote a variety of learning activities. Each learning studio opens directly to a shared collaboration area that transforms the learning environment in a simple and cost-effective way. The second level features a media center and an "Imaginarium," a place for students to express creativity in a combination of art- and STEM-based activities. Colorful and vibrant, the school has playful custom-designed interior graphics that were derived from student-focused activities in the early stages of planning and design. A landscaped courtyard functions as an outdoor learning classroom to help expand teaching and learning outside the building. Careful planning was taken to fit within the site context, ensuring flexibility for future expansion and taking advantage of solar orientations. At the district's request, the school was designed to meet rigorous energy standards. Coalescing these ideas together, the design focuses on student learning, flexibility, comfort, and imagination.

MHTN Architects

Client
Davis School District

Project area
70,250 sq. ft.

Project cost
$21,580,000

Cost/square foot
$307/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2020

Photographer
Paul Richer/Richer Images; Martin Van Hemert Photography

WEST DE PERE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
De Pere, Wisconsin

Bray Architects

Client
School District of West De Pere

Total Project area
123,418 sq. ft.

Total cost
$28,825,000

Total Cost/square foot
$234/sq. ft.

Area of Project Entry:
19,250 sq. ft.

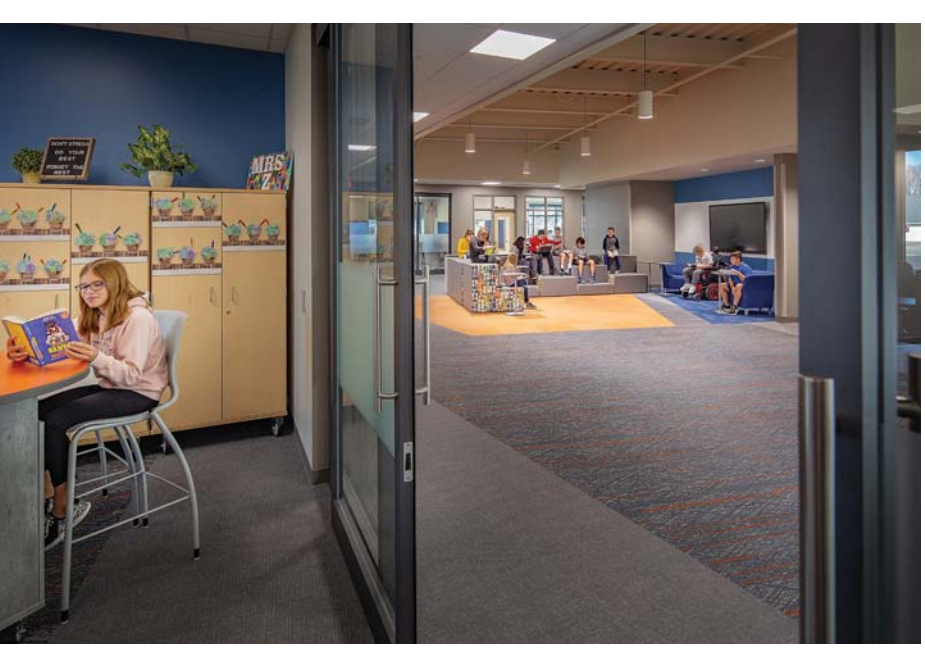
Completion
September 2021

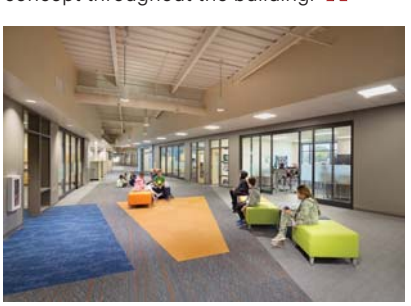
Photographer
Bill Fritsch | Harper Fritsch

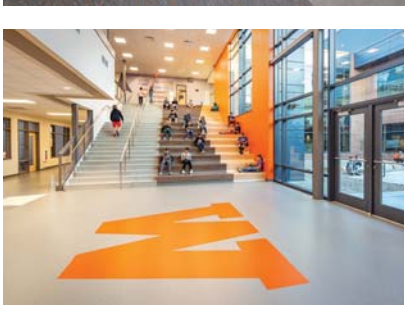
The common areas of the new West De Pere Intermediate School are extensions of the classrooms, offering students and teachers ample space for individual breakout sessions and group learning. Each classroom has a set of sliding doors that encourage teachers to expand their classrooms into an adjacent resource area. The resource areas are equipped with flexible furniture, light enough for teachers and students to rearrange to best suit the day's learning activity.

Two learning stairs mirror each other at the heart of the building. The stairs provide space for students to work independently during study hall periods and double as amphitheater-style seating for large group meetings. Elongated windows surrounding the stairs create a bright and spacious learning environment.

Bray Architects infused each common area with engaging details. Colorful, trapezoid-shaped carpeting insets bridge the threshold between classrooms and corridors. Custom ceiling tiles in the learning stair area mimic colorful shape patterns on the floor. This material play introduces lively visuals to provide a consistent design concept throughout the building.

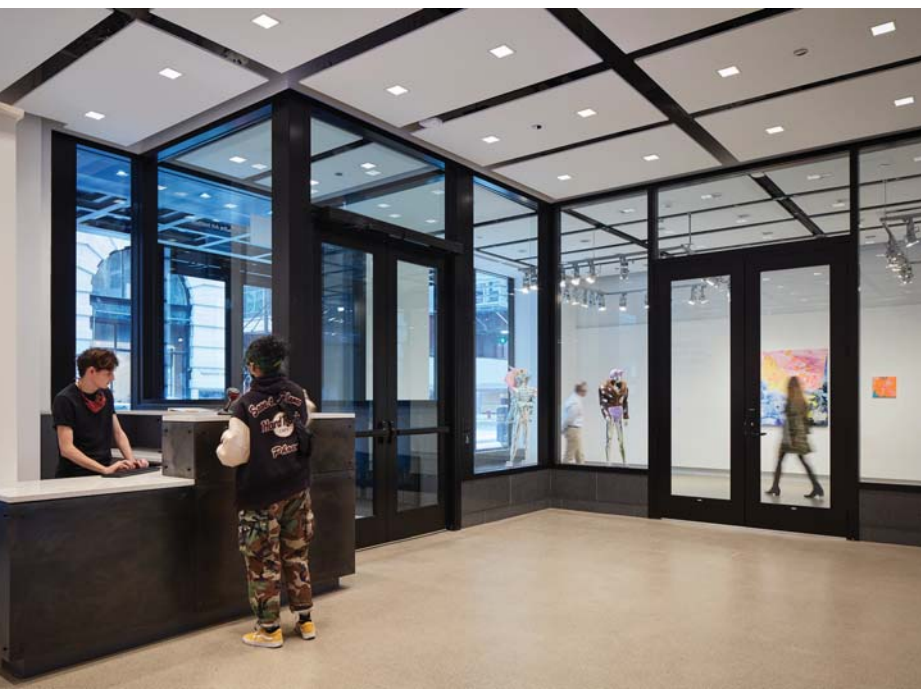






SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE GALLERIES AND GRADUATE STUDIOS – 33 E. WASHINGTON

Chicago, Illinois



Weese Langley Weese Architects Ltd.

Associated firms:
Eastlake Studio

Client
School of the Art Institute of Chicago

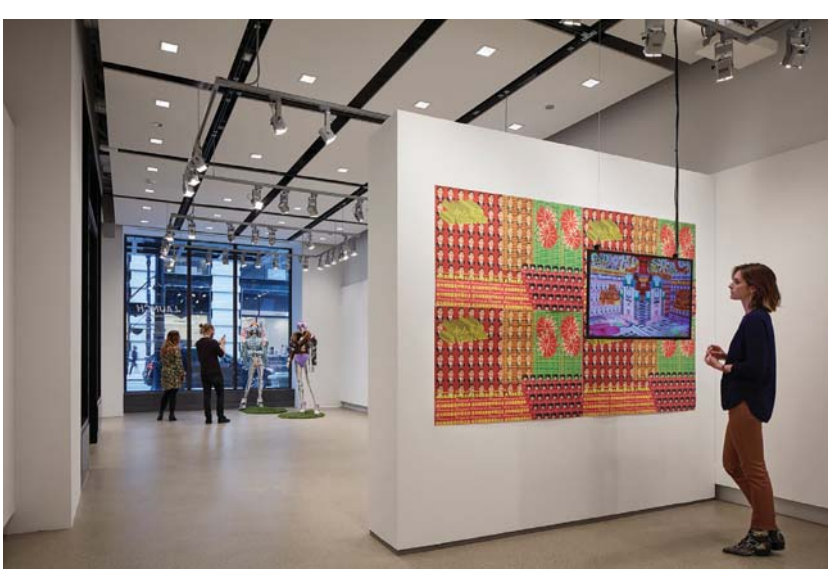
Project area
65,000 sq. ft.

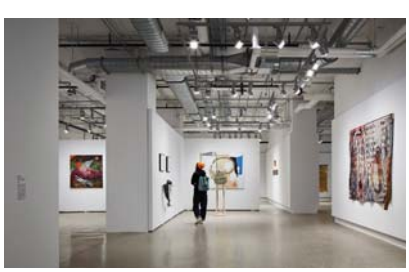
Project cost
Withheld

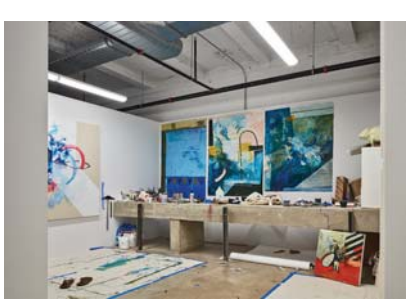
Completion
August 2020

Photographer
Steve Hall, Kendall McCaugherty, Hall + Merrick

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) has relocated its galleries and graduate studios to a more prominent location that provides a street level presence in the Chicago Loop. The project includes the renovation of four levels in a historic building that had been a department store. A new central communicating stair with views into adjacent spaces connects the street-level lobby and gallery to three lower levels. The architect was asked by SAIC to study the feasibility of moving their galleries and graduate studios to this new location, and to develop the design of the new facility. Galleries on Lower Levels 1 and 2 are configured as highly flexible space with movable walls and smaller installation rooms around the perimeter. New lighting and mechanical and other building systems were carefully coordinated to preserve ceiling heights. Lower Levels 2 and 3 are also home to gallery offices and support spaces along with new individual studio spaces and critique rooms for graduate students.

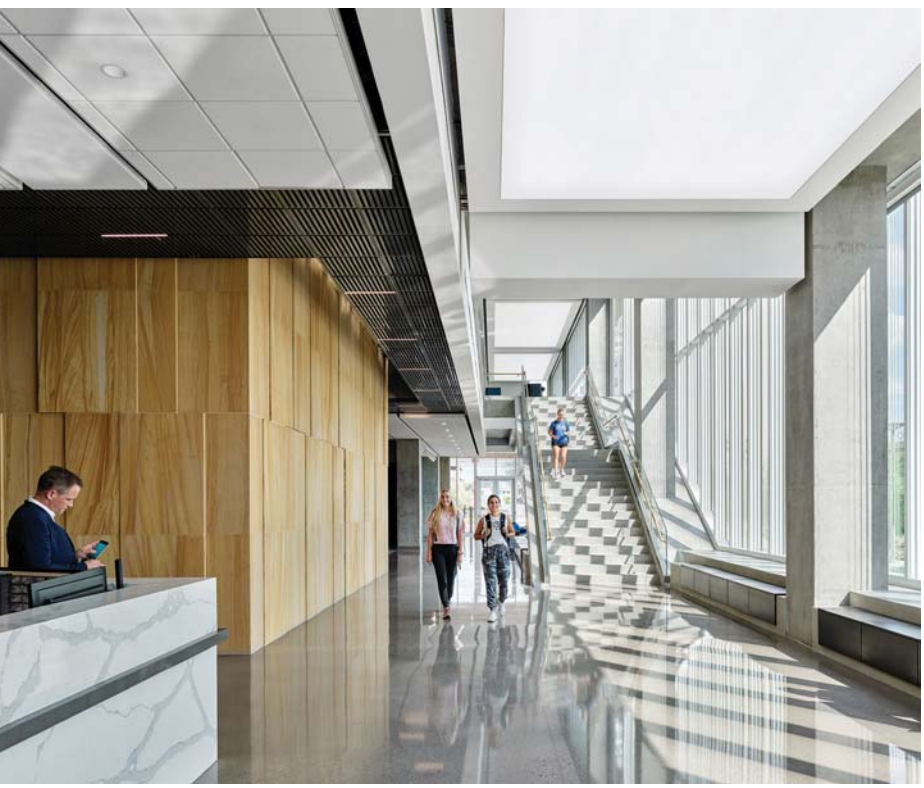


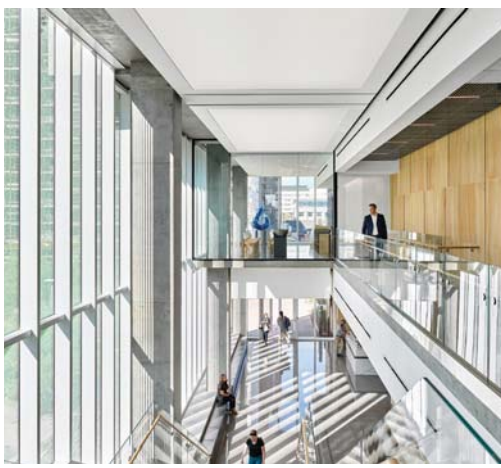




CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY, VIRGINIA G. PIPER CHARITABLE TRUST HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING

Phoenix, Arizona



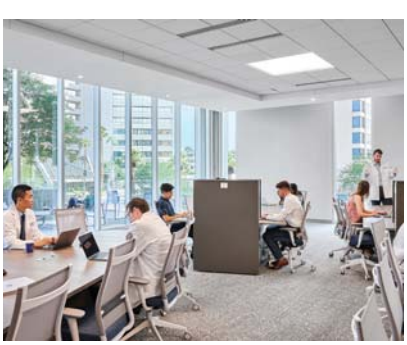


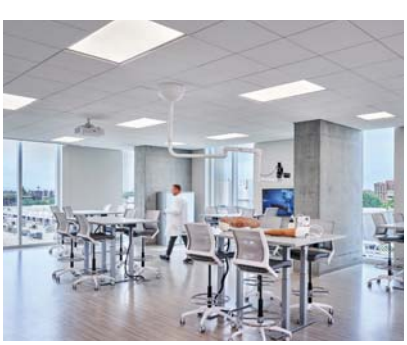
The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Health Sciences Campus has established new principles of interdisciplinary, experiential and active learning pedagogies. The campus provides dynamic, flexible, technology-rich learning environments for over 900 medical, nursing and allied health students. Design for the campus takes inspiration from Creighton's education ethos, "Cura Personalis" (care for the whole person), to create spaces that emphasize occupants' physical, mental, social and emotional well-being.

Encompassing medical simulation environments, standardized patient suites, classrooms, and research and laboratory environments, a "vertical learning commons" of interconnecting stairways, atriums and student gathering spaces creates collaborative environments with framed views.

Integral to the building's design is its use of natural light, a biophilic element shown to have positive cognitive and emotional impacts on users.

Slight shifts in mass and fenestration create a sense of dynamic movement, and the building's glazing reflects its urban and mountainous atmosphere. The interior design encourages movement and centers on well-being spaces with access to natural ventilation, outdoor study environments and vertical connections.





RDG Planning & Design

Associated firm:
Butler Design

Client
Creighton University

Project area
183,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$65,000,000

Cost/square foot
$355/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
Michael Robinson Photography

PORT CHESTER-RYE BROOK HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ADDITION

Port Chester, New York

Fuller & D'Angelo P.C.

Client
Port Chester UFSD

Project area
39,800 sq. ft.

Project cost
$19,000,000

Project cost/square foot
$475/sq. ft.

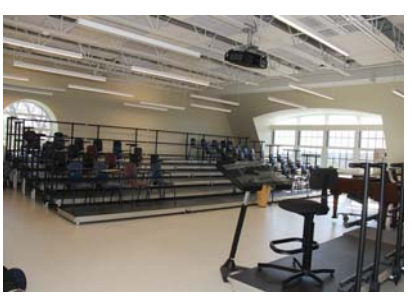
Total area
69,000 sq. ft.

Total cost
$37,000,000

Total cost/square foot
$536/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

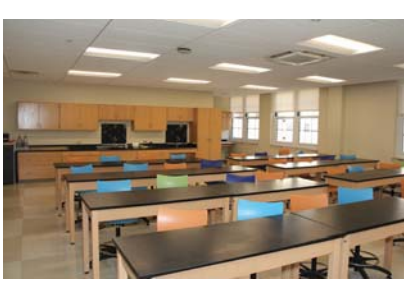
Photographer
City Architectural Photography, LLC.
Marc J Harary

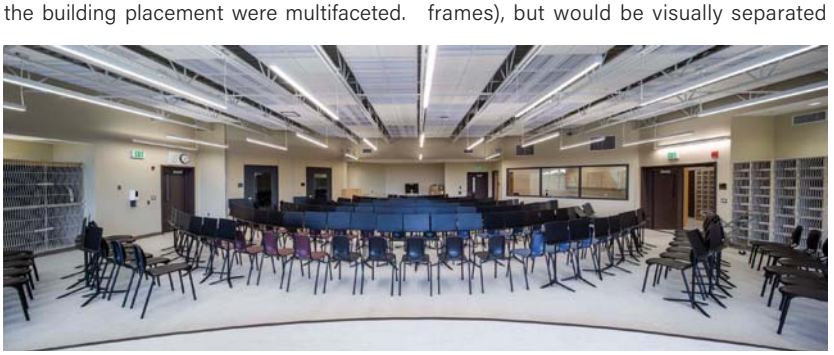


A 1929 Port Chester High School was brimming at full capacity and required additions to meet the demographic trends of this Westchester County hamlet. The architect addressed the population growth with two major additions, which focus on academics and physical education.

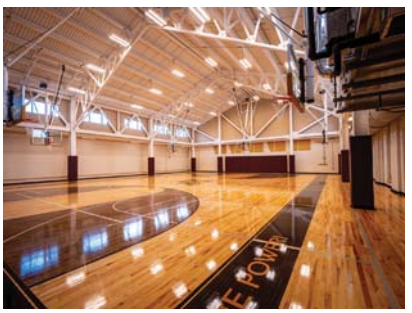
The new academic wing was to house classrooms, special education, science rooms and band and choral spaces without impeding the original vistas from the classic front façade and portico. Thus, academic adjacencies, phasing and site logistics of the building placement were multifaceted. It was also vital to keep parking on site and not encroach onto village streets. Hence, an elevated academic structure was incorporated into the design. Because the addition is elevated and transparent, the original western entrance of the school is still visible from the ground and the student glass bridges. The pediment and tower can now be viewed up close.

The original building is historic, so the design creates an addition that uses similar languages to the existing structure (brick patterns, circular windows, arched window frames), but would be visually separated from the existing building. The resultant design and experience are a harmonious blend of old and new architecture.





CHARLES F. BRUSH HIGH SCHOOL
Lyndhurst, Ohio



ThenDesign Architecture

Client
South Euclid-Lyndhurst City School District

Project area
45,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$8,500,000

Cost/square foot
$189/sq. ft.

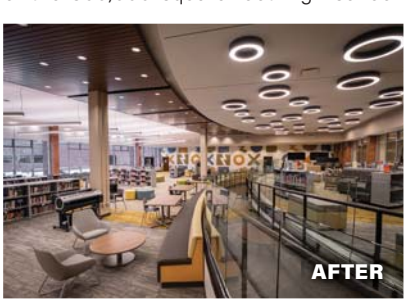
Completion
February 2021

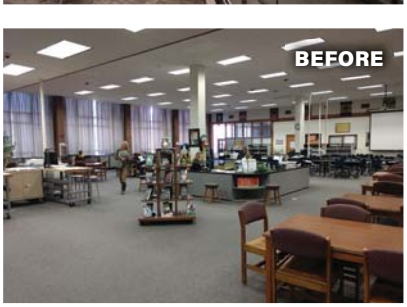
Photographer
ThenDesign Architecture

The Brush High School renovation provides a dramatic update to this cherished historic building. Constructed in 1927, the school has undergone multiple additions to support the community's expansion. Recently, the district developed a strategic plan that outlined a vision to renew this growth and become a "destination community." To support this goal, the district invested in its learning facilities by renovating 45,000 square feet of the 300,000-square-foot high school: redeveloping its media center, student dining, athletic facilities, and innovation lab, and infusing a new graphic approach throughout the building's corridors and shared spaces.

A new formal entrance was developed to incorporate a secure vestibule and visitor entrance without detracting from the historical aesthetic. The media center was redesigned, transformed into a vibrant, multileveled space that serves as a library and area for collaborative work. To make better use of the athletic field, the existing gymnasium was raised one level, and new locker rooms and athletic offices were added underneath.

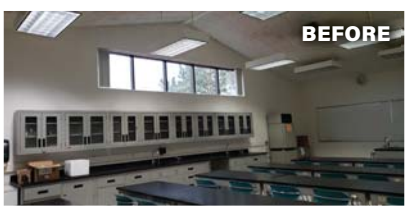
This transformative renovation supports modern education and embraces both the history and the future of the district.





DAVERMAN HALL NURSING SCHOOL RENOVATION

Grand Rapids, Michigan



The renovation of Cornerstone University's Daverman Hall transformed the eastern portion of the building into a medically focused education space. The rejuvenated wing offers simulation labs to equip students with realistic experiences in medical service scenarios. Breakout spaces, offices, and flexible lecture areas also were included in the renovation.

The nursing school needed to feel at once clinical and comfortable. Part of the solution was to layer neutral tones popular in health care settings on top of interesting patterns and fixtures to create a single, holistic space that maintains a sophisticated higher education feel. Examples of this technique are visible in the lounge and adjacent corridor, where eye-catching wallpaper and a chandelier create intrigue without breaking from the earthy tones. The terrazzo and brick provide continuity with the rest of Daverman Hall.

The design team selected durable, easy-to-clean furniture and materials that would stand up to daily wear and tear. These features also are common in health care spaces, where cleanliness is essential for the safety of staff and patients.

C2AE

Client
Cornerstone University

Project area
8,000 sq. ft.

Project cost of project entry category:
$2,600.000

Cost/square foot
$325/sq. ft.

Completion
December 2020

Photographer
Jason Keen; C2AE

GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE, LAKESHORE CAMPUS

Holland, Michigan

Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) has offered classes on the lake shore, spread out in four locations, for more than 20 years. The college purchased the former JCPenney in The Shops at Westshore Mall in the heart of Holland Township to become a consolidated GRCC Lakeshore Campus, committed to serving Lakeshore learners of all ages. One consolidated campus creates synergy and collaboration across programs that are physically co-located. The facility gives GRCC flexibility to grow into the much-larger space and establishes a strong presence that truly embeds the college – and education – in a community. One of the challenges presented to the design team was to take the JCPenney space and create a new GRCC identity that would shed any association with the old retail presence. The vast interior space was converted into labs and classrooms, and the exterior of the building was completely transformed, establishing a modern, welcoming presence while saving as much of the existing building shell as possible to keep the project within its budget.

GMB Architecture + Engineering

Associated firm: The Christman Company

Client
Grand Rapids Community College

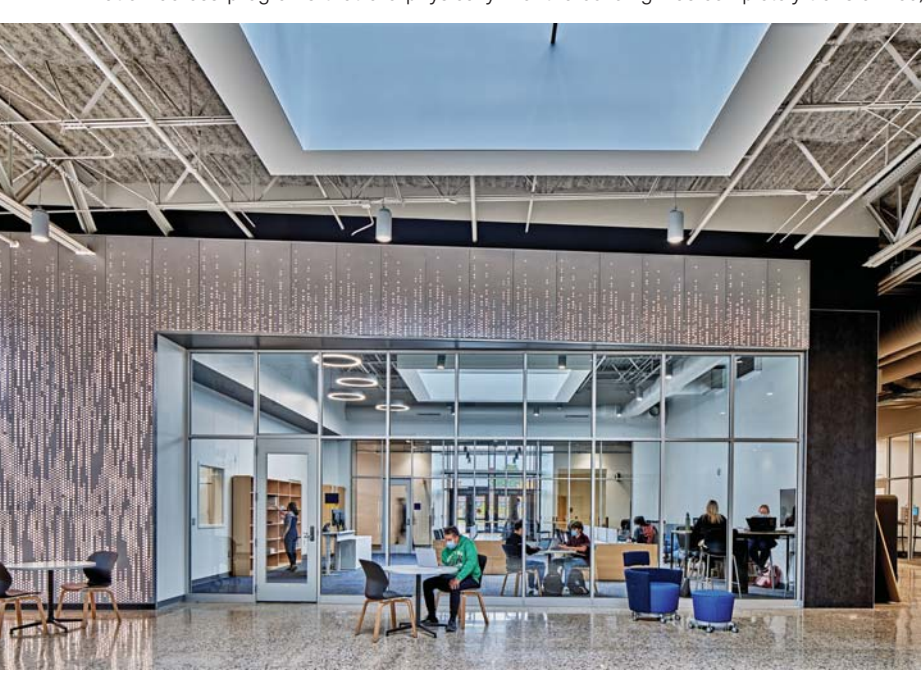
Project area
52,000 sq. ft.

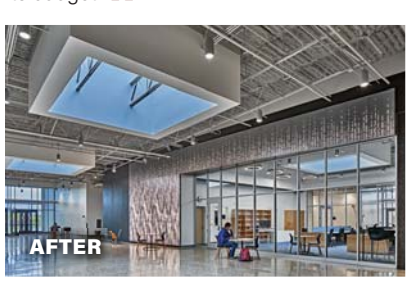
Project cost
$12,000,000

Cost/square foot
$230/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
Jason Keen





SCIENCE LEARNING COMMONS - LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

Appleton, Wisconsin

RAMLOW/STEIN Architecture + Interiors

Client
Lawrence University

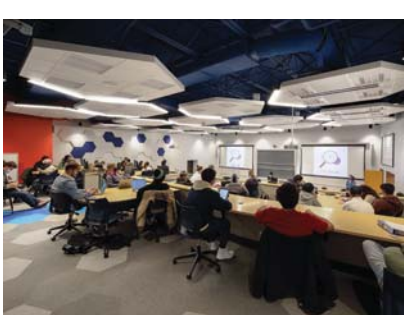
Project area	Project cost
2,550 sq. ft.	$1,300,000
Cost/square foot	**Completion**
$510/sq. ft.	August 2021

Photographer
Tricia Shay; Lawrence University

Lawrence University spent three years reimagining how an outdated science lecture hall could and should work. Preparations for best use of the remodeled space were supported by a grant to Lawrence from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) to carry out its Inclusive Excellence Initiative. This initiative encourages colleges and universities to explore innovative ways to bring under-represented students into the sciences.

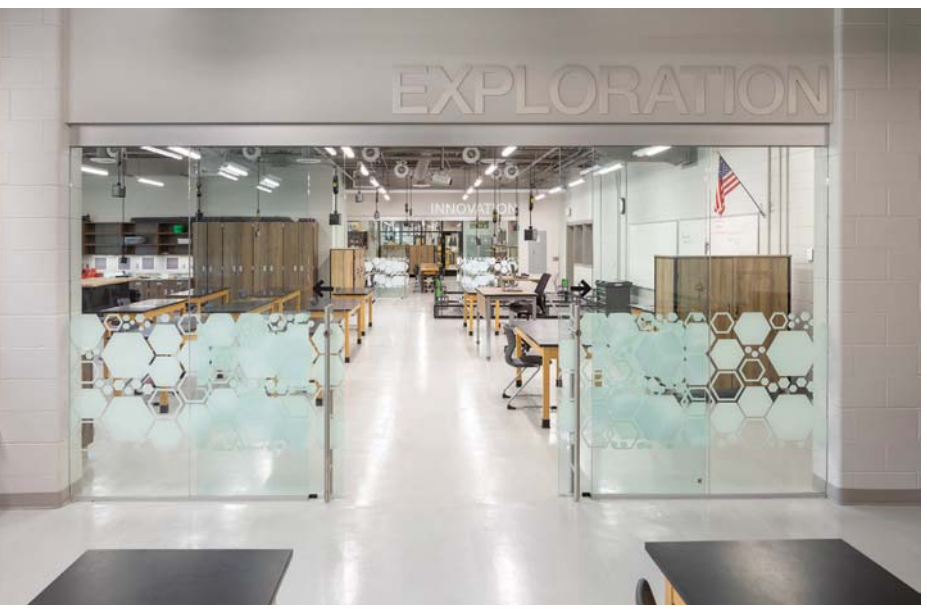
The Science Learning Commons achieved the university's vision for engaged learning. The design scaffolds over the existing stepped structure to create a three-tiered amphitheater that can seamlessly support multiple pedagogies and transition between styles with ease. In group-work mode, students can display and collaborate on content from personal or local devices. In interactive mode, instructors can manage the room from a central control panel and choose content from any student pod to display on the front screens.

Ultimately, the renovation has enhanced students' ability to work together creatively without intimidation, eliminating the isolating experience of solely lecture-based classes and fueling happiness and success in the sciences.



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOMERSET, WISCONSIN, HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION AND RENOVATION

Somerset, Wisconsin



The existing Somerset High School was a traditional, double-loaded corridor building that didn't align with the educational delivery model of the district. Wold worked with the district to identify areas and spaces for reinvention and reorganization and provide an educational environment where students could work with greater independence and autonomy to meet this goal. This approach focused on two major thematic areas within the building's academic core: humanities and STEM/career technical education.

For the humanities area, workers removed the enclosed media center in the middle of the building as well as solid walls in classrooms and corridors. An integrated flexible learning environment was developed, modeled on contemporary office design, where students can work beyond classrooms in a smaller group or individual settings with increased visibility and technology. In STEM/CTE, the approach is based on design schools. Individual labs are aligned with glass and operable walls to provide a connection between space—from clean design through fabrication and eventually heavy construction. Design and science labs anchor the space. Mathematics has been moved from Humanities to align with STEM programming.

Wold Architects & Engineers

Client
School District of Somerset, Wisconsin

Project area	Project cost
56,160 sq. ft.	$8,900,000

Project cost/square foot
$158/sq. ft.

Total area	Total cost
126,290 sq. ft.	$10,365,000

Total cost/square foot
$82/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2020

Photographer
Troy Thies Photography; Wold Architects & Engineers

TAMPA HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY MAGNET SCHOOL

Tampa, Florida

FleischmanGarcia-Maslowski Architecture

Associated firms: JE Dunn Construction Company; Fishman & Associates; Campo Engineering Inc.; Master Consulting Engineers Inc.; VoltAir Consulting Engineers; Engineering Matrix Inc.; Ekistics Design Studio Inc.; Driggers Engineering Services Inc.; Element Engineering Group

Client
Hillsborough County Public Schools

Project area	Project cost
47,390 sq. ft.	$4,100,000

Project cost/square foot
$87/sq. ft.

Total area	Total cost
51,941 sq. ft.	$21,799,072

Total cost/square foot
$420/sq. ft.

Completion
December 2020

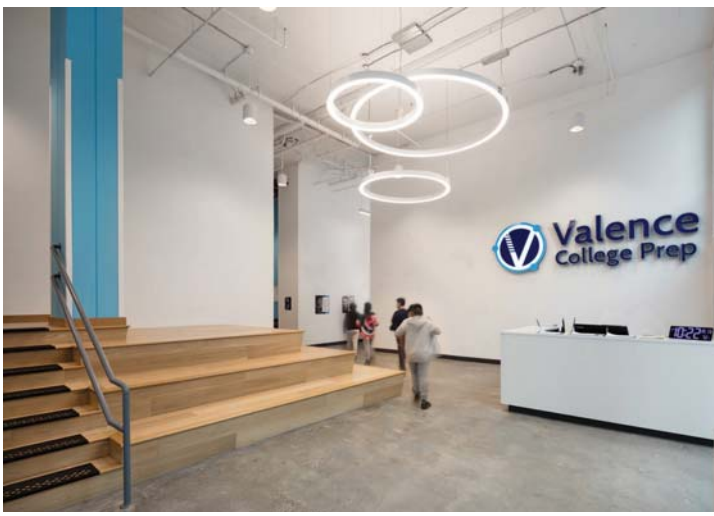
Photographer
Seamus Payne Commercial Photography; FleischmanGarciaMaslowski

Built in 1906 by volunteers from the surrounding community, Tampa Heights Elementary Magnet School has been an integral part of the Tampa Heights urban fabric for more than a century. In the wake of Hurricane Irma in September 2017, a failure in the building's electrical system sparked a fire that destroyed much of the original school. The exterior masonry walls were salvaged and restored, and a new internal tectonic steel structure was designed to hold the brickwork safely in place.

To meet programmatic requirements, a two-story floating addition was constructed between the existing wings. The void between the existing footprint and addition becomes the vertical community organized around a central stair connecting all three levels. The dynamic relationship between the contemporary interior and historic exterior imbues the school with a renewed energy.

Reconfiguration of the site provides a single point of ingress and egress for enhanced safety. Improved amenities enrich the site and provide necessary supports for the reconstructed school. The rejuvenated courtyard features a shaded amphitheater tailored to small performances and outdoor lessons.

VALENCE COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL
New York, New York



Needing more space to serve and educate middle school children from surrounding low-income communities, Valence College Preparatory Charter School approached Loci to design a 35,000-square-foot space on the first three floors of a new residential development in the Rego Park neighborhood of New York City. On the ground floor, a large all-purpose room and generously sized activity spaces support the school's variety of programs, and a tiered seating area in the main lobby encourages informal gatherings. The upper floors contain quiet classrooms flooded with natural light. Combining multiple tenant spaces into one school required special consideration and understanding of the school's functions; working around an existing structural system was a formidable task. Despite the challenges, Loci designed a variety of flexible gathering spaces and created an efficient and cost-effective urban school environment that is inspiring, welcoming, and safe.

Loci Architecture

Client
Valence College Preparatory Charter School

Project area	Project cost	Completion
35,000 sq. ft.	Not provided	August 2021

Photographer
John Bartelstone; Loci Architecture

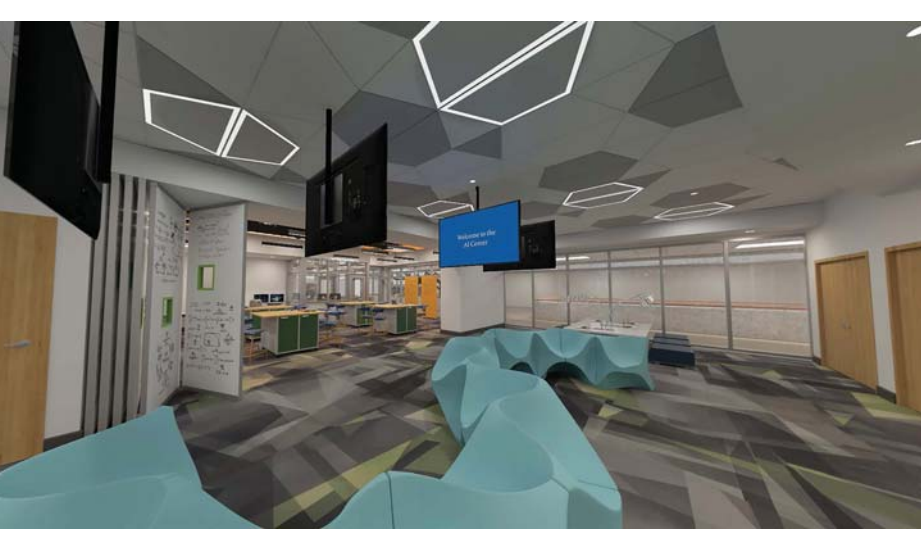
THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER AT MIAMI DADE COLLEGE'S NORTH CAMPUS

Miami, Florida

Created from what used to be a large storage space, Miami Dade College's AI Center is a technology-enabled active learning setting. The space was designed to act as a stimulant for experimental study and collaboration across industries, disciplines and academia.

Guests will be greeted by a highly intelligent hologram that initiates the educational experience by informing users of the center. The new space will include:

- Hi-Tech computer room – fixed-seating class with multiple hanging displays
- Quantum computer room – provides connection to an IBM quantum computer
- Robotics lab – equipped to develop mechanics and robotics
- Maker space – outfitted with 3D-printers and manufacturing equipment
- Design/thinking room – collaborative seating and access to technology
- AI instructional rooms – large instructional space with folding dry-erase partition
- A vertical lift – facilitates communication between multiple floors



The college's vision is to encourage creative thinking through large, collaborative spaces with reconfigurable furniture, smart boards, and automated projectors and screens. The center will promote intellectual interaction among students, professors, departments and disciplines by creating a seamless net of information access and sharing.

Alleguez Architecture Inc.

Associated firms: Bliss & Nyitray Inc.; SGM Engineering Inc.; MEP Engineering Inc.; Stobs Bros. Construction Co.

Client
Miami Dade College

Project area
14,500 sq. ft.

Project cost
$4,000,000

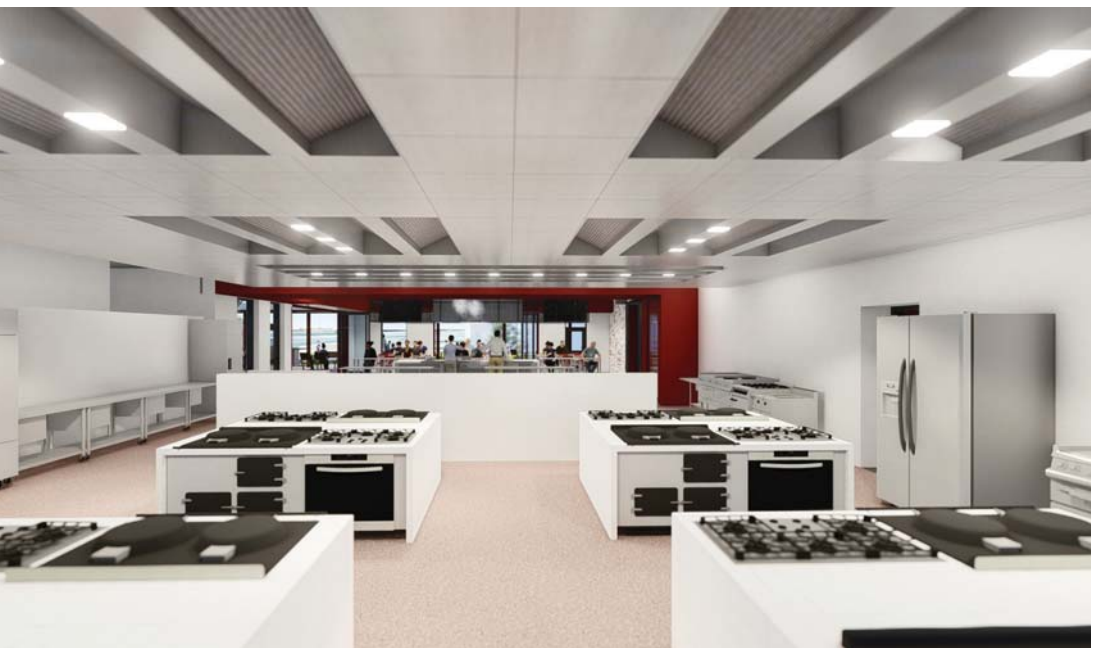
Cost/square foot
$276/sq. ft.

Completion
March 2022

Images
Rendering by +TOM

COLTON HIGH SCHOOL CULINARY/HOSPITALITY CTE COMPLEX

Colton, California



Ruhnau Clarke Architects

Client
Colton Joint Unified School District

Project area
8,500 sq. ft.

Project cost
$5,200,000

Cost/square foot
$612/sq. ft.

Completion
February 2024

Photographer
Ruhnau Clarke Architects

The district wanted to expand and enhance the food service and hospitality CTE pathway at Colton High School. The improvements offer students an opportunity to gain hands-on practice in an environment conducive to the art of cooking with equipment commonly found in professional kitchens.

The project entails modernizing an existing 3,800-square-foot assembly hall and replacing aging and insufficient classrooms and equipment with a 4,700-square-foot culinary arts building. The goal is to provide a sophisticated, high-tech environment that will prepare students for careers in the hospitality industry and the culinary arts while also creating a social destination hub, "the colony," inspired by the 122-year-old beloved yellowjacket school mascot.

The new contemporary facility fully supports the school's curriculum with an indoor café run by students, learning spaces, flexible assembly hall with built-in seating and demonstration kitchen. The connection to outdoor seating areas with grilling area, herb garden and bar top seating provides a space for student gatherings, after-school functions, competitions, and front-of-house learning opportunities regarding serving and management.

GUDY GASKILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Littleton, Colorado

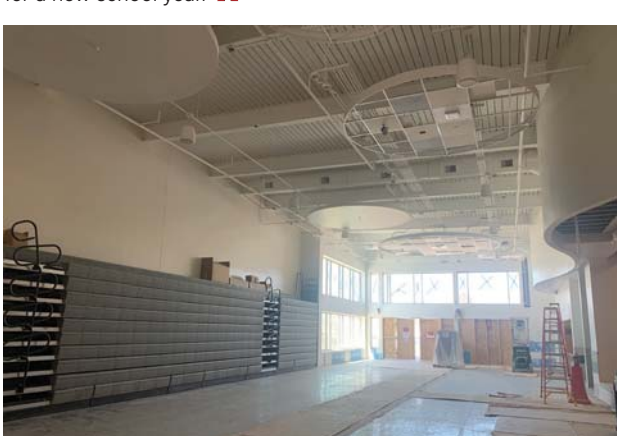
Gudy Gaskill Elementary was named for Coloradan mountaineer Gudy Gaskill. The school was designed with a mountain theme in mind. A "learning trail" is a design element inspired by the Highline Canal Trail, which aligns with the school's property. It is one of the longest trails in urban Colorado, stretching 71 miles and crossing through 11 governmental jurisdictions. The "learning trail" includes design elements such as a curved ceiling and flooring patterns that create a trail-like feel. This motif is reflected throughout the school, connecting classroom pods and flexible learning areas. Earthy colors and materials such as boulders for flexible seating enhance this motif in the school. Gudy Gaskill Elementary is scheduled to be completed in August 2022 in time for a new school year.

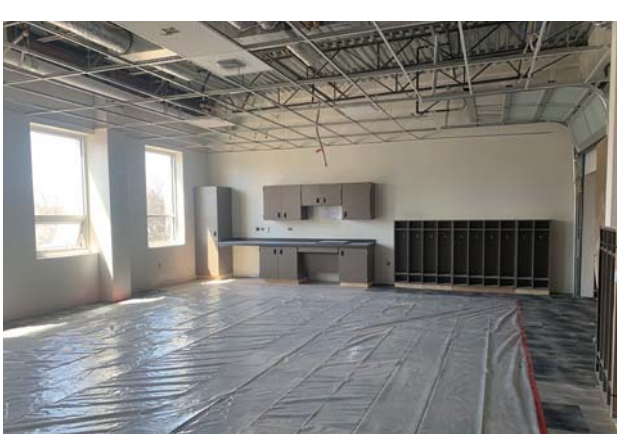
Jacobs

Interior design firm: Hord Coplan Macht
Associated firm: Howell Construction

Client
Littleton Public Schools

Project area	Project cost	
90,000 sq. ft.	$30,000,000	
Cost/square foot	**Completion**	**Photographer**
$333/sq. ft.	August 2022	Rachel Slavik





NEW CHEMISTRY BUILDING
Norfolk, Virginia

Moseley Architects
Associated firms: SmithGroup; Ann P. Stokes; Bowen Technovation; GET Solutions; Facility Dynamics; Forella Group; JSJ Design Group; Lynch Mykins; NV5 Engineering & Technology; Stone Wall Hill Partners; Vanasse Hangen Brustlin; W.M. Jordan Company

Client
Old Dominion University

Project area
112,227 sq. ft.

Project cost
$58,647,038

Cost/square foot
$523/sq. ft.

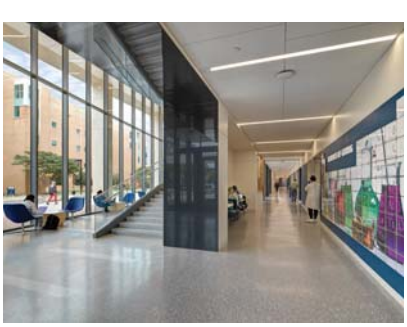
Completion
May 2021

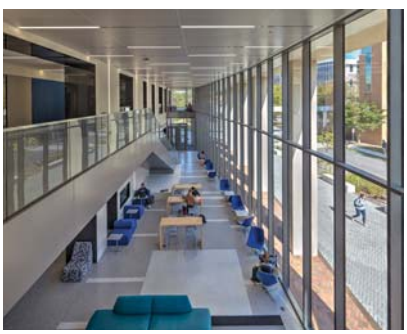
Photographer
Maylone Photography

"Our new Chemistry Building has been a game-changer for success by reducing barriers for students to take advantage of resources and providing faculty with state-of-the-art research facilities. An outstanding space for teaching, research, and public lectures, it is becoming the event space of choice on campus!"

—DR. GAIL DODGE, DEAN, COLLEGE OF SCIENCES, OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

Moseley Architects, in collaboration with SmithGroup, partnered with Old Dominion University to design a science building in accordance with the university's master plan. Designed to replace the Alfriend Chemistry Building, the new facility has laboratories, faculty offices, and departmental administrative and technical support areas. These include undergraduate teaching laboratories, undergraduate and graduate research laboratories, and shared research laboratory support facilities for the departments of chemistry & biochemistry.





Reflecting the science departments housed within, the facility has several standout features. Thoughtfully curated details such as exterior brickwork pay homage to the periodic table of elements. Interior wall coverings display chemistry motifs, and a custom LED wall panel at the facility's planetarium entrance mimics the light of specific stars. In addition to these creatively relevant features, the facility was carefully designed to foster academic excellence. This was achieved by including a planetarium, breakout study spaces, full-height sliding glass marker boards, whiteboards, and collaborative workspaces furnished with flexible, branded fixtures. Study and collaborative spaces are also complemented by the extensive use of glass to enhance natural light, visibility, and transparency, thereby promoting Old Dominion's "STEM on display" initiative.

BONNIE OEHL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MODERNIZATION

Highland, California

Working at one of only a few dual-immersion elementary schools in the San Bernardino City Unified School District, Bonnie Oehl staff recognized the challenges of learning in two languages. They wanted to give students space to learn and converse outside the classroom. The library was reimagined and transformed into a space for collaboration and conversations among students, and now includes a more flexible and expandable space, featuring operable glass walls and a new adjacent maker space. Two non-accessible sinks and drinking fountains were relocated and reworked to provide students with quality facilities.

PBK

Associated firm:
D&M Martin Construction

Client
San Bernardino City Unified School District

Project area
Not provided

Project cost
$1,289,407

Completion
January 2022

Photographer
Not provided

COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS, JOHN WARNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Columbia, Missouri

As the first Columbia middle school designed to foster collaboration, John Warner Middle School provides spaces with varied scales: small-scale corridor collaboration for peer-to-peer work, larger collaboration spaces that are team-based in size, and a media center that has been re-imagined as a center of innovation and collaboration for the entire building. The media center is situated off both the main entry way and the main cross building hallway. It provides a central point in the school and provides a vertical welcoming space, in addition to the traditional horizontal hallway space. The media center includes a STEM lab as part of the mission to be a central collaborative space for the school. The space is open and flooded with natural light, helping to add to the feeling of this space as the heart of the school.

ACI Boland Architects

Associated firm: PWArchitects

Client
Columbia Public Schools

Project area	Project cost
5,200 sq. ft.	$1,398,384
Cost/square foot	**Total area**
$269/sq. ft.	126,431 sq. ft.
Total cost	**Total cost/square foot**
$34,000,000	$269/sq. ft.
Completion	**Photographer**
August 2020	Matt Kocourek Photography; Deanna Dikeman Photography

HILDRETH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Harvard, Massachusetts

Arrowstreet

Client
Harvard Public Schools

Project area
3,635 sq. ft.

Project cost
$1,879,000

Cost/square foot
$517/sq. ft.

Total area
85,214 sq. ft.

Total cost
$44,053,000

Total cost/square foot
$517/sq. ft.

Completion
November 2021

Photographer
Horne Visuals

Situated at the heart of the elementary school, the Library/Media Center creates a space that is open, warm, and welcoming for students' first encounters with reading and information gathering. The design encourages students to see the library as the first destination on the road to knowledge. The two-story volume is at the center of circulation between classrooms, cafeteria, and gymnasium. It is the social hub of the school for students to pass through continually on their daily activities.

A large two-story window provides daylight and visual connection to the public library across the street, encouraging students to engage with their greater community.

A maker space/science lab with a balcony overlooks the library, connecting the two spaces to encourage learning. Students will be able to perform experiments such as parachute drops that integrate learning in the space.

INA ARBUCKLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY MODERNIZATION

Jurupa Valley, California

An inner-city elementary school that suffered from a lack of engaging and welcoming spaces, Ina Arbuckle underwent a modernization that transformed the campus and connected it to the neighborhood. It has inspired students, parents, and the community to reach for their highest potential and develop a lifelong love of learning.

The library was re-imagined as a future-focused student resource center that supports hands-on activities and 360 degrees of project instruction. A multilayered experience through convex/concave ceiling elements serves to highlight collab zones, reinforced through bold color accents in paint and Cradle to Cradle Certified carpeting. Custom environmental graphics on walls and glazing expand the space and add visual interest to energize young minds. Flexible furniture configurations maximize and divide the center with pops of color infused in bookcase cubbies. They help promote student wonder and creativity.

Placing the resource center at the front of the campus has opened it to the community, enhancing equity across the district. Parents can visit with their children after hours and help them become the leaders of tomorrow.

Ruhnau Clarke Architects

Client
Jurupa Unified School Distirct

Project area
3,418 sq. ft.

Project cost
$878,436

Project cost/square foot
$257/sq. ft.

Total area
32,803 sq. ft.

Total cost
$8,430,371

Total cost/square foot
$257/sq. ft.

Completion
June 2019

Photographer
Ruhnau Clarke Architects

DR. JUSTINA FORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAMPUS
Littleton, Colorado

Dr. Justina Ford Elementary was designed with collaboration and flexible learning environments in mind. Each classroom pod is situated around a common learning space complete with operable glass walls. This large group area is connected to each classroom. Classrooms can use this space by opening their overhead, garage-style doors, enabling learning to take place outside the classroom. The joint library/media center is at the heart of the school. It is designed to be an open, inviting environment surrounded by natural light. This space offers quiet reading nooks and additional areas for instruction. Flexible furniture transforms the space and enables the environment to be used in a variety of ways by students of all ages and grades.

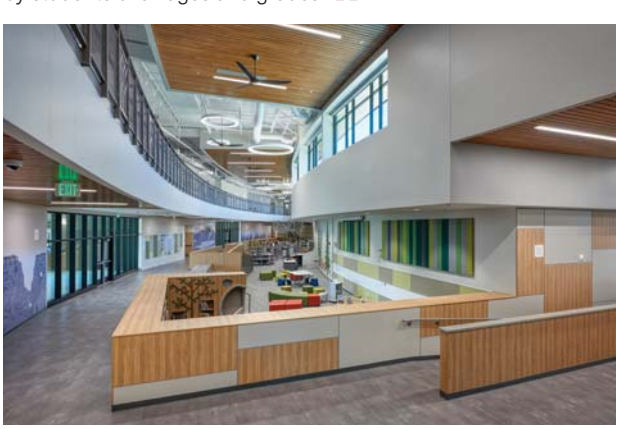
Jacobs

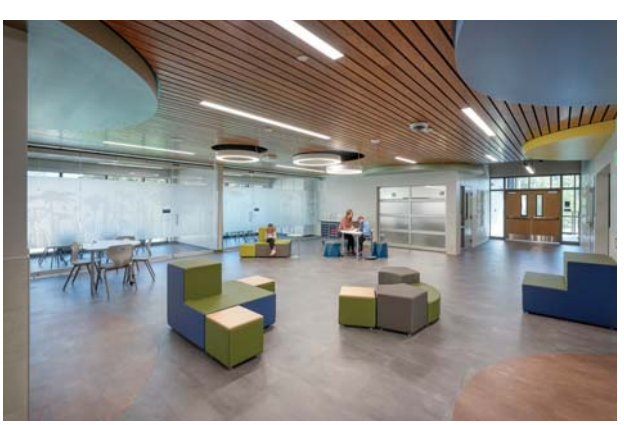
Interior design firm: MOA Architects
Associated firm: Roche Constructors

Client
Littleton Public Schools

Project area	Project cost	Cost/square foot
91,919 sq. ft.	$31,454,224	$342/sq. ft.

Completion	Photographer
August 2021	Moss Photography





LILLY LIBRARY RENOVATION
Bloomington, Indiana

TowerPinkster
Associated firms: Shrout Tate Wilson Consulting Engineers; Strauser Construction

Client
Indiana University

Project area
52,216 sq. ft.

Project cost
$13,000,000

Cost/square foot
$248/sq. ft.

Completion
June 2021

Photographer
Katie Harmon, HawkDigital

Lilly Library sits in the heart of Indiana University's Bloomington campus. The historically significant building houses some 460,000 books, 120,000 pieces of sheet music, and more than 8.5 million manuscripts. In 2019, funding was secured to provide much-needed renovations to the entire building. This project reinvigorates the library and elevates its capacity to preserve rare materials, protect library holdings, and educate visitors. The exterior now boasts refinished limestone, bronze detailing, and bronze doors, inviting the community to explore the history within. Each floor plan is unique, and many of the original aspects of the building were preserved, including the restoration of all the wood finishes and coffered ceilings. New classroom space was added to the previously unused lower level; the additional space was created by updating and condensing the library's antiquated mechanical systems. The library's well-known reading room now displays a mural that pays tribute to many of the great authors and playwrights whose works reside at the library.

PROPOSED MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP

North Brunswick Township, New Jersey

USA Architects, Planners + Interior Designers

Client
North Brunswick Township Schools

Project area
4,500 sq. ft.

Project cost
$1,200,000

Project cost/square foot
$264/sq. ft.

Total area
177,500 sq. ft.

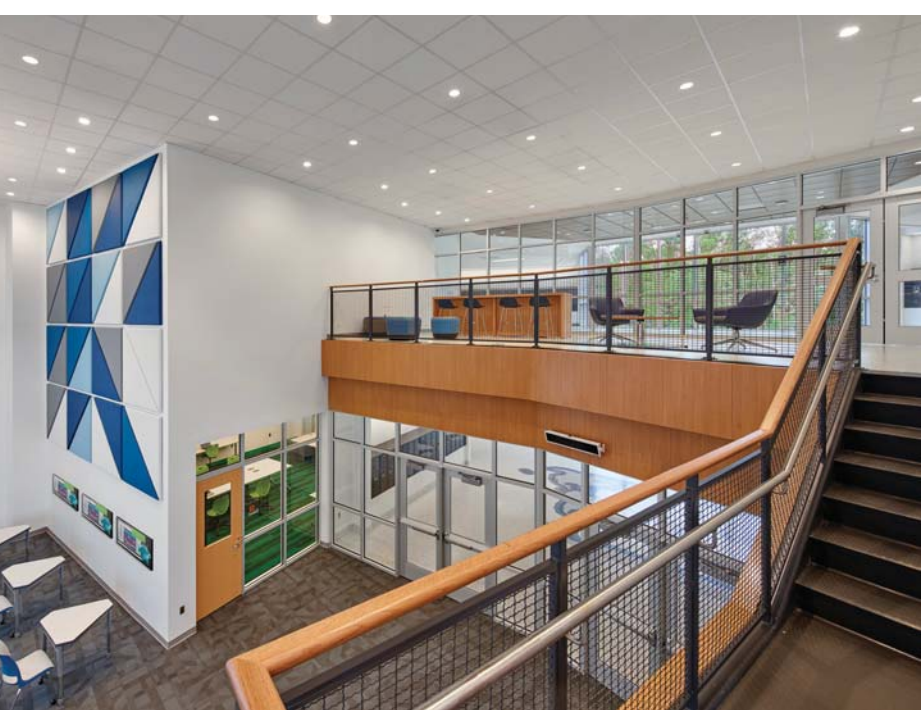
Total cost
$47,000,000

Total cost/square foot
$264/sq. ft.

Completion
June 2020

Photographer
Halkin Mason Photography

The new North Brunswick Township 7-8 Middle School is the district's first school building to be constructed in 40 years and is part of a $77 million plan to relieve congestion and crowding and expand educational programs. This progressive two-story facility takes advantage of scenic views of its tree-lined borders, provides indoor-outdoor connections via outside courtyards adjacent to maker spaces and art rooms, and contains learning labs, general classrooms, and huddle spaces for collaborative engagement. The academic portion of the school is designed to be separate from the cafeteria, gymnasium, and library/media center (Knowledge Resource Center), which opens these spaces to the community after hours.

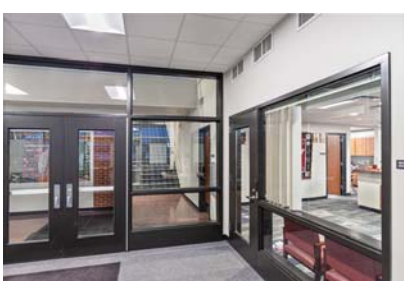


Centrally situated off the main entrance, the Knowledge Resource Center (the "K" as it is known to students) is the heart of the middle school. This double-height space integrates a traditional school library with the latest digital technology and resources. Low, curving bookshelves and soft seating throughout preserves the feeling of openness and creates informal areas for students to read, research, or collaborate.

The left side of the Knowledge Resource Center features wall-mounted smart boards and movable desks and chairs that can be reconfigured for working either independently or in groups. This area also can be used for testing and tutoring. Direct access to two computer labs is provided at the rear of the space. The right side of the space features a sitting stair, which can be used for either instruction in a group lecture setting or casually by students. This stair connects the lower level to an intermediate landing with additional bookshelves, a seating area on the upper balcony, and access to the second floor of the school. Double-height curtain wall flanks the east and west sides, providing ample daylighting and access to two exterior courtyards on either side.

ROSSVILLE K-12 MEDIA CENTER

Rossville, Indiana



The Rossville K-12 Media Center was completed for Rossville Consolidated Schools, a rural district in central Indiana. The best site for the addition was a previously open courtyard between two academic wings. The design brings primary and secondary students into one space and creates a visual connection between the two. In the media center, two Rossville "Hornets" red carpet stripes define the separation between primary and secondary sections; a shared gathering space is situated in the middle. Depending on the furniture used, this space can function as a formal gathering space or a casual reading space. The media center addition took advantage of a sloped grade, which enables occupants to enter from the lower level and traverse up a learning riser to the upper media center level. An overhead sectional door enables the school to have the media center open or closed to the learning riser. Another overhead door provides access to a "flex" room off the media center. This space has the flexibility to be a classroom, meeting room, or reading room.

Daylight was a driving factor in the design, not just because of the program, but also because of the challenge posed as previously exterior classroom windows became interior windows. To obtain a

Lancer + Beebe LLC

Associated firms: Sims-Durkin Associates; Lynch, Harrison & Brumleve Inc.; Abonmarche

Client
Rossville Consolidated School District

Project area
21,150 sq. ft.

Project area cost
$3,600,000

Project cost/square foot
$170/sq. ft.

Total area
60,850 sq. ft.

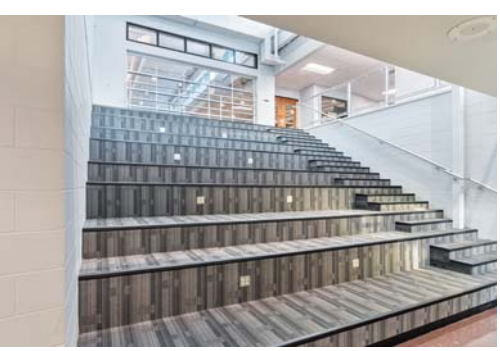
Total cost
$16,000,000

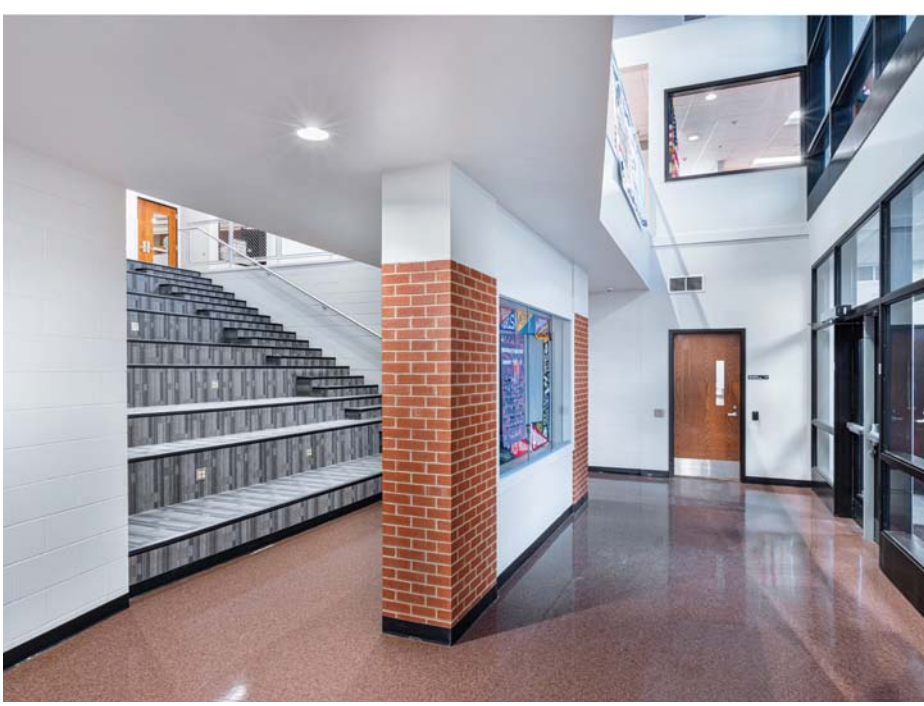
Total cost/square foot
$263/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2019

Photographer
Al Ensley

visual separation while admitting some daylight into the classrooms, translucent film was applied to these windows. In addition, north-facing clerestory windows are installed in the media center. Beyond the media center, the project included other building upgrades. An athletic field house and an agriculture and arts wing were added to the existing building. New baseball and softball facilities were added to the site as well as a new transportation and maintenance building.





SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, MEDIA CENTER

Somerville, Massachusetts

Somerville High School's new media center provides students with a visually dramatic space that offers flexible, diverse learning experiences and ubiquitous technology.

The media center is perched directly above the main entrance. Formerly situated in a dark, repurposed 1929 gymnasium, the media center now forms the heart of the school in plan and section, connecting many of the school's diverse programs such as the Graphic Design CTE lab overlooking it. Rather than a fixed-destination "room," it serves as passageway and inspiration for all students as they move from class to class.

The space features two classroom areas for technology-driven instruction. Open collaboration areas with whiteboards and soft seating cater to small-scale projects and peer-to-peer learning. Small group rooms serve students in need of private study or one-to-one instruction. A maker space supports hands-on project work such as 3D printing, robotics, and TV production.

Generous daylighting, a silent displacement-air system, comfortable furniture, and multilingual graphics add to the welcoming, inclusive feel. Outside, two green roofs provide authentic connections to the natural environment in New England's densest city.

SMMA

Client
Somerville Public Schools, City of Somerville

Total area
396,500 sq. ft.

Project area
9,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
Not provided

Completion
March 2021

Photographer
Robert Benson Photography

STARKEY RANCH THEATRE, LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER
Odessa, Florida

FleischmanGarcia-Maslowski Architecture
Associated firm: Walbridge

Client
Pasco County Schools

Project area
21,218 sq. ft.

Project cost
$2,100,000

Cost/square foot
$100/sq. ft.

Total area
30,000 sq. ft.

Total cost
$9,400,000

Total cost/square foot
$313/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

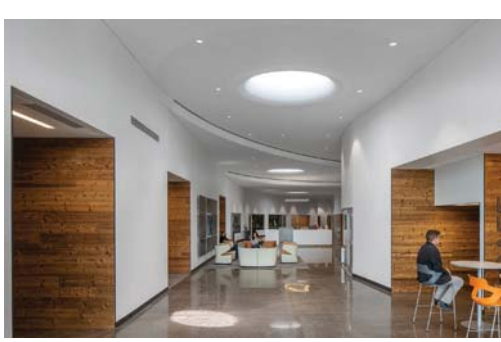
Photographer
Seamus Payne Photography

The new Starkey Ranch Theatre, Library and Cultural Center (TLC) is jointly used by the Pasco County Library System and the School Board of Pasco County.

Geographical context and sun pattern studies influenced the continuous roof design. Inside, curved walls contrast sharply with the rigid exterior, creating an element of the unexpected. Skylights bathe the space in natural light, and expansive glazing frames the verdant landscape beyond. Layered ceilings connect spaces and contribute to the organic flow. A variety of landing spaces, like the café and lounge, provide opportunities for patrons to engage and commune.

Arts and culture are celebrated through maker spaces. Display and exhibit areas spark interest and promote conversation. An expansive theater with sound booth, theatrical lighting, and dressing rooms features a stage and open floor plan for maximum seating flexibility with an array of event types.

An artfully arranged courtyard buffers the TLC from the adjacent K-8 school, providing communal lecture and classroom space, an outdoor stage, movie screening area, and splash story time.



SUNSET PRIMARY SCHOOL
West Linn, Oregon

IBI Group

Client
West Linn-Wilsonville School District

Project area	Project cost
3,154 sq. ft.	Not available
Total area	**Total cost**
65,002 sq. ft	$18,700,000
Total cost/square foot	**Completion**
$288/sq. ft.	August 2017

Photographer
Josh Partee

Sunset Primary School is on the site of the first one-room schoolhouse, built in 1890 for a district that now operates 1.5 million square feet of school facilities over 360 acres. Placing a new school on this legacy site involved a deep appreciation for the history of teaching and learning in this unique region of Oregon. Built to a capacity of 450 students, the new school's design embraces the natural landscape, opens its doors to neighbors and families, and connects a community of learners with collaborative, inspirational learning environments.

The district's priority for fully inclusive services and equitable experiences drove

the library's placement at the "heart" of the school. Students with special education needs are integrated into the general classroom population with support provided by specialists who are distributed throughout the building and work alongside teachers.

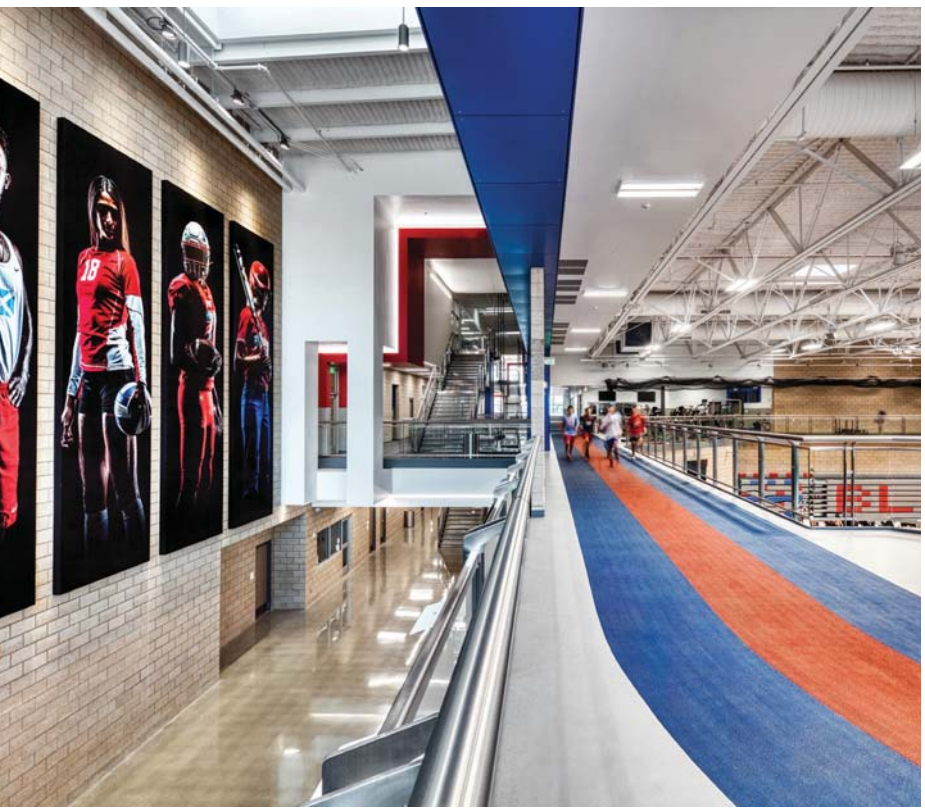
Classrooms are clustered in neighborhood groups around open collaboration spaces known as "porches." If students require additional support outside the classroom, the porch can be used for small group or individual learning activities. Each porch connects to the central, unifying library.

Carefully constructed on the previous school's playfields, the new school preserved the large and significant stand of Douglas Fir trees to the north and south. The exposed wood structure and roof deck of the open library celebrate the Douglas Fir as a building material, and the two-story window wall embraces views of the same fir trees outside. This view was a driving factor in the school's design and is the first experience students have on their way to class each morning.

With family multipurpose rooms, local artwork, playful interior colors, and partnerships with nearby parks, the new Sunset Primary School is a welcoming and joyful place that continues the legacy of community-driven teaching and learning that began over 130 years ago.

BEN LOMOND HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC CENTER

Ogden, Utah



VCBO Architecture

Client
Ogden School District

Project area
107,400 sq. ft.

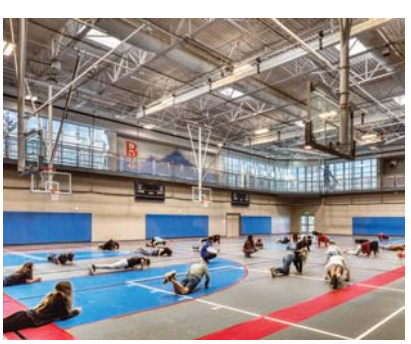
Project cost
$28,715,250

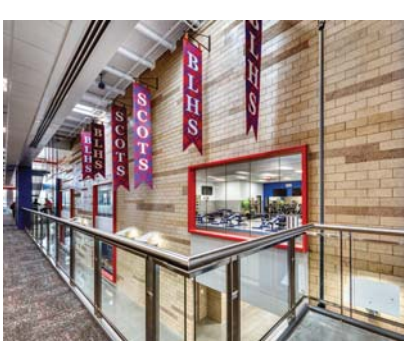
Project cost/square foot
$267/sq. ft.

Completion
April 2021

Photographer
Alan Blakely Photography

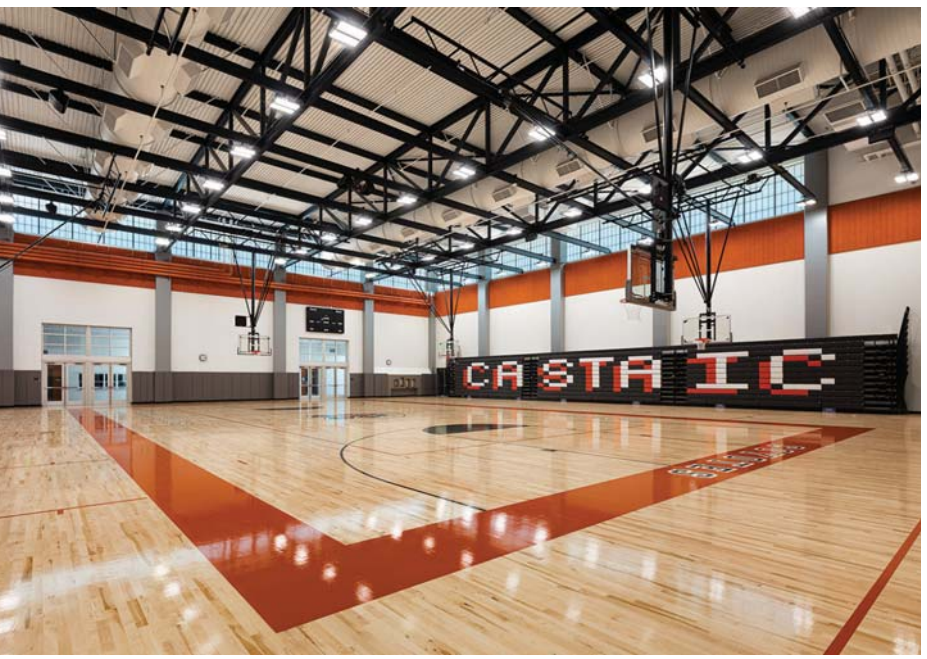
The Ogden School District wanted to make a bold statement with this Athletic Center, not only in its architecture but also in its unique functionality and energy efficiency. The district hired VCBO Architecture and Hughes General Contractors to lead the effort in bringing that bold statement to life. The vision for this standalone athletic center was to break the mold of the traditional, boxy, cave-like, artificially lighted high school gymnasium complex. The facility creates a fusion between an indoor practice facility for outdoor sports with a highly transparent, visually engaging, and energy-efficient gymnasium complex that accommodates all student athletic groups.





CASTAIC HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

Castaic, California



Ruhnau Clarke Architects

Client
William S. Hart Union High School District

Project area
46,566 sq. ft.

Project cost
$22,240,852

Project cost/square foot
$478/sq. ft.

Total area
256,230 sq. ft.

Total cost
$122,382,938

Total cost/square foot
$478/sq. ft.

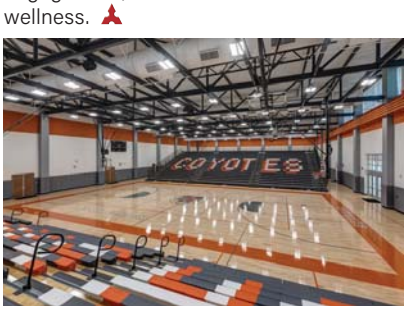
Completion
August 2019

Photographer
Ruhnau Clarke Architects

The Castaic High School Gymnasium is anchored at the perimeter of the campus to enable joint public use and create a single point of entry for safety and security. The orientation of the building frames the preserved vista of Romero Canyon, which influenced the biophilic material selections like textured split-face block that reflects the weathering of the land. Natural amber hues and fauna indigenous to the area celebrate the school brand, the Castaic Coyotes.

The design of the gymnasium introduces motion and energy through vibrant color on walls and floors, custom graphics, acoustical wall paneling and exposed wide flange steel beams that are powder coated in charcoal as a nod to the geology in the area.

A truly agile learning environment was developed for students to thrive. This includes team rooms, locker rooms, private showers, two basketball courts, rollout bleachers that can seat more than 1,000 people, weight room and dance studios. Daylighting is maximized through high-performance translucent building systems at the perimeter of the façade. It boosts engagement, student health and emotional wellness.



THE GRAHAM ATHLETICS & WELLNESS CENTER

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

EwingCole

Client
William Penn Charter School

Project area
87,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
Confidential

Completion
September 2021

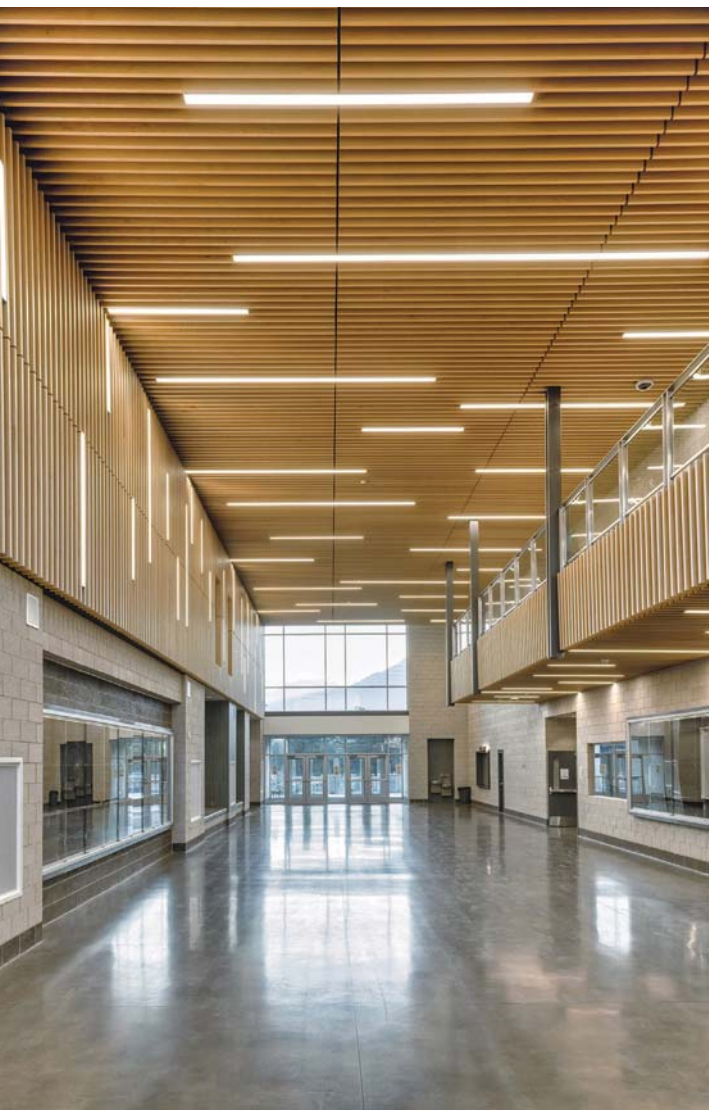
Photographer
Halkin/Mason Photography, LLC

William Penn Charter School, the oldest Quaker school in the nation, strives to create a learning environment where arts and athletics flourish side by side with scholastic achievement. To accommodate over 900 students, Penn Charter needed to build a facility to support one of the most extensive athletic programs of Pennsylvania Independent Schools as well as serve the needs of the broader student population, including K-12 physical education.

The Center accommodates multiple wellness programs in addition to various recreational and competitive athletic programs. Two competition-level basketball courts, four practice cross courts, recreation and training facilities, a climbing wall, a concessions area, and a nutrition center support the school's belief that these activities enable students to become "strong, creative, resilient and flexible people." Support spaces include locker rooms and team rooms, a training room with hydrotherapy, and an athletics administrative suite. Additionally, the wellness program is anchored by an open multistory lounge space flanked by a nutrition bar and flexible classroom spaces that are used in a variety of purposes, including traditional instruction and team meetings.

HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Midvale, Utah



School athletics facilities include the main gym, auxiliary gym, and stand-alone field house. The athletics lobby is a voluminous impactful gathering space for students, visiting teams, and spectators with a portal framed view of the region's Wasatch Mountains. Operationally, the lobby functions as a hub that connects athletic areas and leads to the upper concourse of the stadium. A dynamic balcony corridor suspended within the two-story volume connects two of the three athletic levels and provides visibility and monitoring between levels.

Daylight fills the lobby, which is finished with biophilic natural materials of patinaed copper and maple wood. The color palette is a timeless range of greens that bolster school spirit.

The gymnasiums are amply illuminated with daylight. The many interior windows encourage personal responsibility and invite inclusion by providing opportunities for students to view activities.

The field house features a second-level gallery that overlooks the stadium, and an expansive curtain wall showcases an elevated view of the field. This flex space is for dance and yoga classes during school and hosts athletic banquets and private events off hours.

FFKR Architects

Client
Canyons School District

Project area	Project cost	
109,754 sq. ft.	$29,878,000	
Cost/square foot	**Total area**	**Total cost**
$272/sq. ft.	407,000 sq. ft.	$113,800,000
Total cost/square foot	**Completion**	
$280/sq. ft.	August 2021	

Photographer
Tobin Rogers; FFKR Architects

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Gahanna, Ohio

Lincoln Elementary is the first new school in the Gahanna-Jefferson district in 27 years. The 750-student building cost about $24 million and replaced the old elementary school a mile away. The new campus has five classrooms per grade level, a cafeteria, gymnasium, two art rooms, two music rooms, and a media center, making it the district's largest elementary school. The building also includes two behavioral unit classrooms, one on each floor, to assist special education students.

Grade levels are organized by color blocks for wayfinding. The kindergarten rooms are orange, first grade red, second grade yellow, third grade blue, fourth grade purple, and fifth grade green. Yellow and blue are the district's colors and are displayed in the main office, gymnasium, cafe, art and music rooms and media center. Reading specialists are assigned to each grade and are close to the classroom blocks. Their spaces also display the colors associated with each grade.

Triad Architects

Client
Gahanna-Jefferson Local Schools

Project area
82,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$24,000,000

Project cost/square foot
$293/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2021

Photographer
Kate Horgan Photography

TEXAS SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF ADMINISTRATION AND WELCOME CENTER AND EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Austin, Texas

McKinney York Architects

Client
Texas School for the Deaf

Project area
66,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$13,600,000

Cost/square foot
$206/sq. ft.

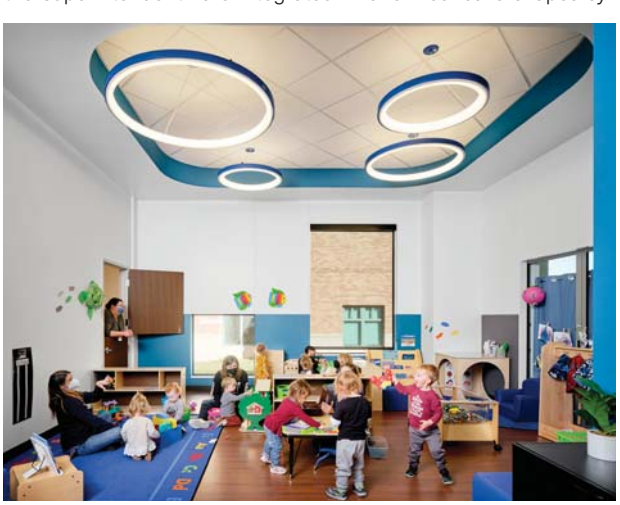
Completion
December 2021

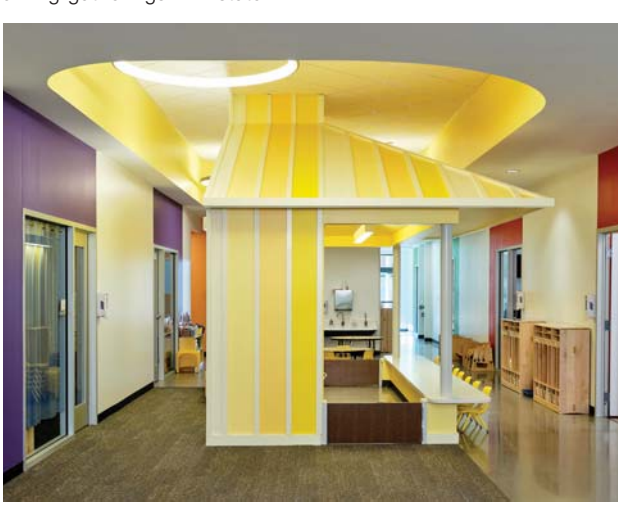
Photographer
Leonid Furmansky

Inspired by the interwoven volumes and voids formed by moving hands during sign language communication, the Texas School for the Deaf Welcome Center and Early Learning Center draws from both the school's rich heritage and its optimistic future.

Programmatic functions—from classrooms supporting the school's youngest students up to administrative spaces supporting the superintendent—are integrated in one location. They create a place that represents the fullness of the school's educational mission. Incorporated throughout the building are DeafSpace principles—formal guidelines developed by the deaf community to assist in creating environments inflected toward the unique experience of deafness. These include generous glazed areas, continuous sight lines, rounded circulation spaces, and concave shapes symbolizing gatherings in the round to facilitate signed communication.

The resulting project is simultaneously rooted in the school's past while actively engaging in a more equitable and inclusive future for the deaf community across the state.





NEW HALL
Columbia, Missouri

New Hall's modern living and learning spaces support the growing needs of Columbia College in Columbia, Missouri.

With a goal of creating engaging, technology-rich spaces that support students' progress on their career paths, New Hall houses both the Robert W. Plaster School of Business and residential living areas for 150 students. The building features state-of-the-art classrooms, an event center, conference rooms, and 76 residential suites on the three upper floors.

Realizing that it is easier for students to succeed academically and build important relationships when they live on campus, the college chose to build its first new residential rooms in over 50 years on the upper levels of New Hall. The three upper floors feature double-room suites connected by full bathrooms. Community kitchens, student lounges, and an outdoor terrace provide gathering and collaboration spaces for students. Each floor is identical except for a designated color scheme to assist with wayfinding. The colors are visible from the exterior and provide a layering effect from below.

Cordogan Clark Ittner

Client
Columbia College

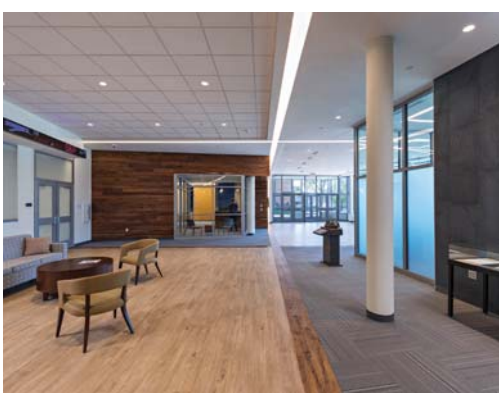
Project area
60,000 sq. ft.

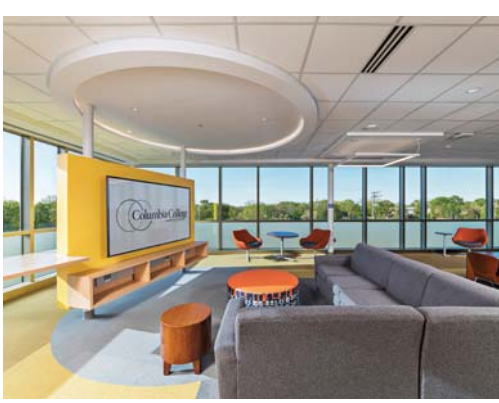
Project cost
$20,000,000

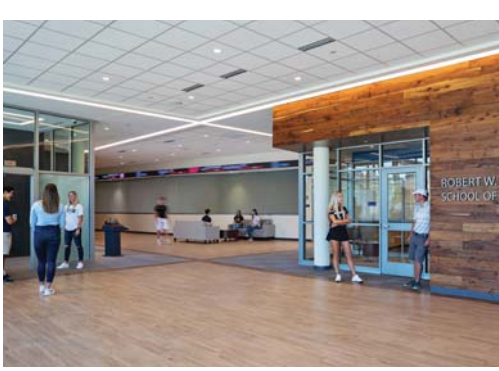
Project cost/square foot
$333/sq. ft.

Completion
September 2019

Photographer
Aaron Gipperich

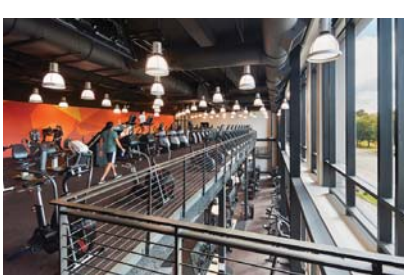






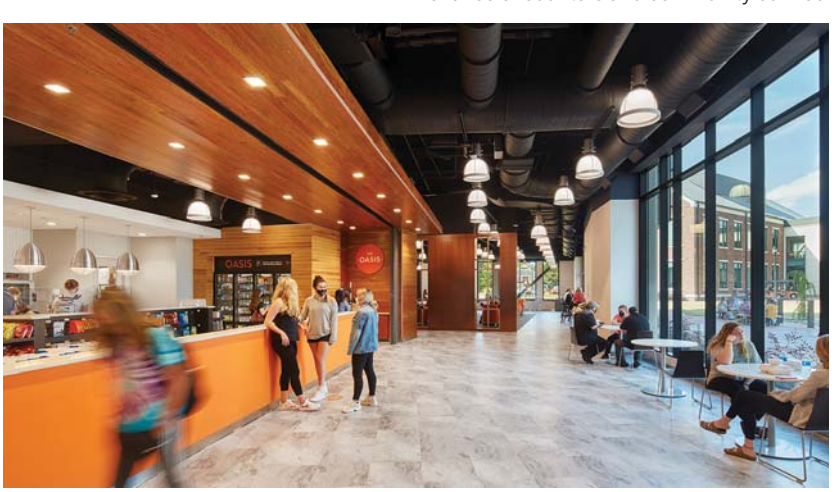
CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY, OSCAR N. HARRIS STUDENT UNION

Buies Creek, North Carolina



The new Oscar N. Harris Student Union returns a heartbeat to the heart of Campbell University. The building completes the historic Academic Circle and serves as a catalyst for student experiences. It centralizes opportunities for informal gatherings, dining, holistic wellness, student activities, and school spirit.

The building's open design encourages chance encounters and community connections. The brick entry façade responds to the campus context and then opens to large expanses of glazing on the Academic Circle's interior quad with views from within the building into the landscape. In the evening, views from the quad highlight the activity occurring within.



Little Diversified Architectural Consulting Inc.

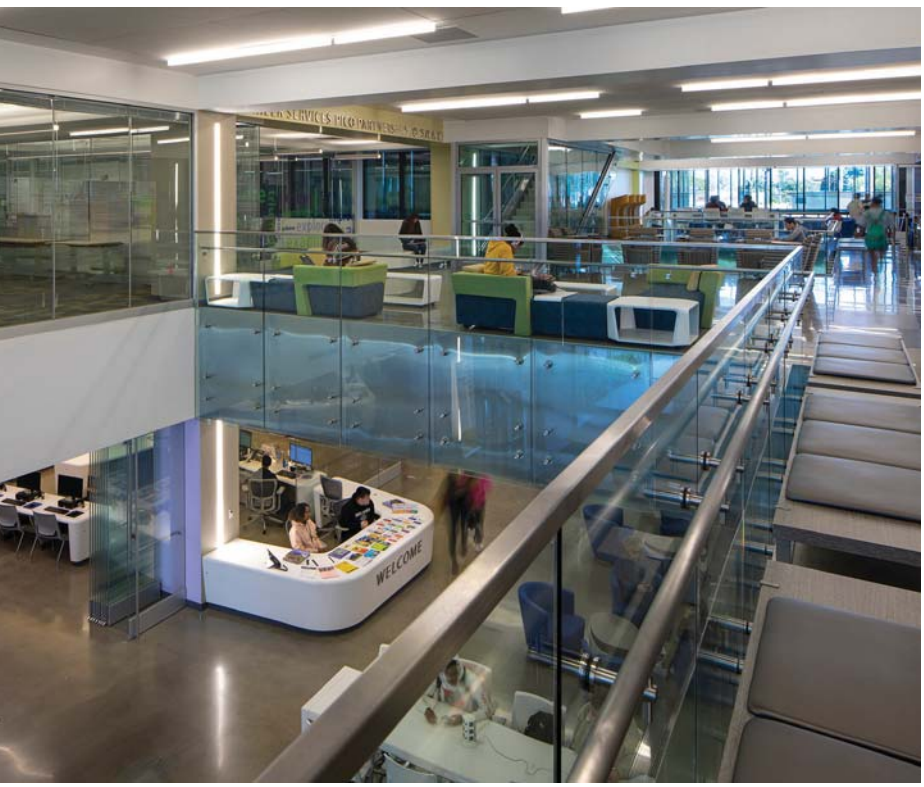
Associated firms: TA Loving; Stewart Engineering; Tipton Associates; RMF Engineering; Surface 678

Client
Campbell University

Project area	Project cost
113,223 sq. ft.	$38,000,000
Cost/square foot	**Completion**
$336/sq. ft.	October 2019

Photographer
Mark Herboth

SMC STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING
Santa Monica, California



The new Student Services Building at Santa Monica College, a three-story multipurpose building and underground parking garage, joins disparate groups of administration programs within a single building. A dilemma inherent in the project was the immense amount of small, dense programmed space required, combined with the desire for the project to serve as the new public face and space of the college. The solution, a permeable box, lightens the program at the site and detail scale to enable public flows between the community and campus. It formalizes a new entry into campus for both pedestrians and vehicles. Material also reinforces the permeability of the dense program. Extensive use of natural light through glazing and light wells minimizes the need for artificial lighting, bringing light into the center of the building and providing courtyards for student gatherings. Meeting rooms, classrooms, and lounge areas are distributed along the building's central spine to create a comfortable welcoming environment for waiting students. A strong commitment to the minimization of a building's environmental impact resulted in a LEED Platinum certification.

Huitt-Zollars
Associated firms: Bernards Brothers Inc.; KFPP Consulting; P2S Engineers; Melendrez Landscape Architecture; PAL id Studio; MDC Engineers

Client
Santa Monica College

Project area
366,277 sq. ft.

Project cost
Not provided

Completion
August 2019

Photographer
Tom Bonner Photography

American School&University

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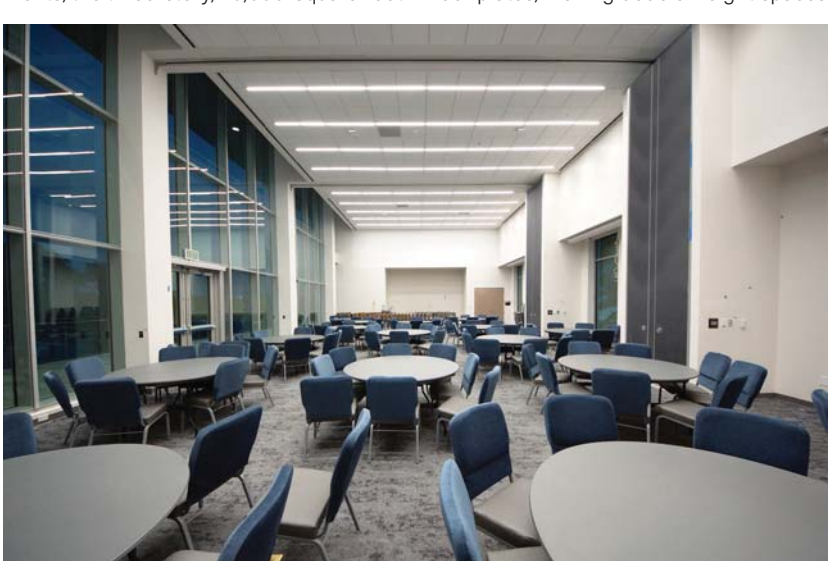
SPC STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

St. Petersburg, Florida

This new Student Success Center brings together key programs for student resources. Housing the registration and financial assistance departments, the three-story, 49,000-square-foot building also blends together women's resources, veterans services, and a large tutoring and learning center. An occupiable interior terrain is created through open floor plates, making double-height spaces that connect large stairs with seating and accessible, flexible shared commons for learning groups and meeting spaces.

Exterior balconies and a large outdoor classroom along the nearby lake offer in-



Wannemacher Jensen Architects, Inc.

Client
St. Petersburg College

Project area
49,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$20,000,000

Cost/square foot
$408/sq. ft.

Completion
January 2019

Photographer
Javier Garcia

terior and exterior learning environments and collaboration space. The building has a large community room with operable partitions to offer a venue for a variety of student events. The interior program is connected to shared commons with large openings and glass storefronts to visually connect, assist wayfinding, and give flexibility to program requirements for collaborative and meeting spaces. Communal workrooms and storage spaces in addition to the flexible seating options offer opportunities for staff, faculty, and students to interact.

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY, UNITI CULTURAL CENTER

Stony Brook, New York

DIGroup Architecture

Client
The State University of New York at Stony Brook

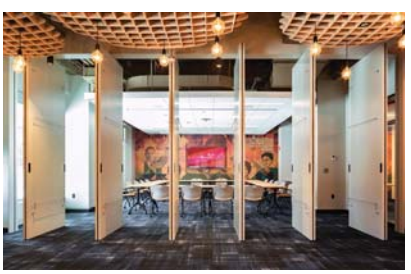
Project area
3,913 sq. ft.

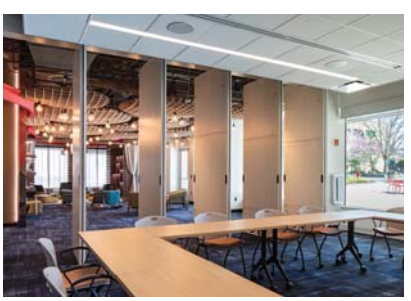
Project cost
$2,797,467

Cost/square foot
$715/sq. ft.

Completion
April 2022

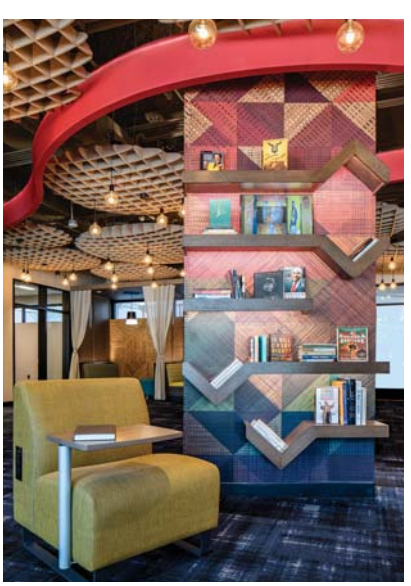
Photographer
Nicholas Venezia





The United Nationalities in Transcending Ideologies (UNITI) Cultural Center relocated into larger, unfinished space within the newly renovated student union building to accommodate a dramatic increase in student population and a more culturally diverse community.

A central design theme was creating an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere that fosters engagement and unifies a multicultural, diverse campus. The team drew inspiration from the center's cultural backgrounds and perspectives, as well as extensive research into universal themes of textile design, international festivals, and colorful food trucks. This resulted in a carefully curated, vibrant mix of multiculturally inspired organic structures, furniture, finishes and graphics. Through the large glass entryway, a welcome desk and a central lounge area with comfortable, flexible seating offer an immediate and inviting experience. Visitors are immersed in walls adorned with graphics that show influential people of color and meaningful quotes. Large and small conference rooms, study nooks, a quiet reflection corner and office space are situated along the perimeter, away from the livelier central core.



CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION AND RENOVATIONS

St. Cloud, Minnesota

ATSR

Associated firms: IMEG; VAA

Client
Cathedral High School

Project area
38,000 sq. ft.

Project cost
$14,600,000

Project cost/square foot
$384/sq. ft.

Completion
August 2020

Photographer
Gaffer Photography

ATSR created a STEAM addition for an existing urban campus. The addition made a flowing connection between two existing buildings set at multiple levels. The double-story commons is the new hub of the building and is filled with natural light and takes advantage of beautiful views overlooking the nearby Mississippi River.

Students can work collaboratively in small group rooms or break out into a variety of seating arrangements in the commons and the overlooking balcony. Transparency and overhead doors create connections between classrooms and into the commons.

The addition includes five science labs, two art studios, maker space, classrooms, administration, student commons, staff lounge, and school chapel. Math classrooms are nearby in the existing building. ATSR provided architectural, mechanical, electrical, technology, interior design, and construction administration services. During the planning phase, ATSR gave tours of existing schools to test concepts in educational design with the staff, students and overseeing committee. Interactive computer models were used to develop and visualize the design options.

NTCA NEW SCHOOL
Wesley Chapel, Florida

North Tampa Christian Academy (NTCA) is a 21st-century learning center designed with science and technology as a major programmatic element. NTCA has state-of-the-art science and fabrication labs. These labs open via overhead door to the covered courtyards so large-scale projects can be constructed and displayed indoors or out. Examples of skills taught in these labs: welding, metal fabrication, woodworking, and other digital fabrication exercises.

Situated on a 43-acre campus with protected wetlands, the school provides many opportunities to teach students about natural Florida environments. The goal was to create opportunities for students to safely explore and engage in the natural world. To reinforce this concept, indoor classrooms were separated by outdoor learning spaces, which were then covered to protect students from sun and rain. This space between the buildings is as important as the space inside the buildings. Additionally, having this outdoor learning space helped mitigate the unforeseen issues relating to teaching during a pandemic. Other outdoor teaching features include a nature trail, large pond with a dock, island rookery, bat house, and a farming program.

Wannemacher Jensen Architects, Inc.
Associated firm: FNI

Client
Conference Association of Seventh-Day Adventists

Project area
56,025 sq. ft.

Project cost
$16,000,000

Cost/square foot
$285/sq. ft.

Completion
July 2018

Photographer
Javier Garcia; Wannemacher Jensen Architects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5

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY BUILDING

St. George, Utah

VCBO Architecture

Client
Dixie State University (Utah Tech University), Utah Division of Facilities Construction and Management

Project area
122,921 sq. ft.

Project cost of project entry category:
$41,906,683

Project cost/square foot
$341/sq. ft.

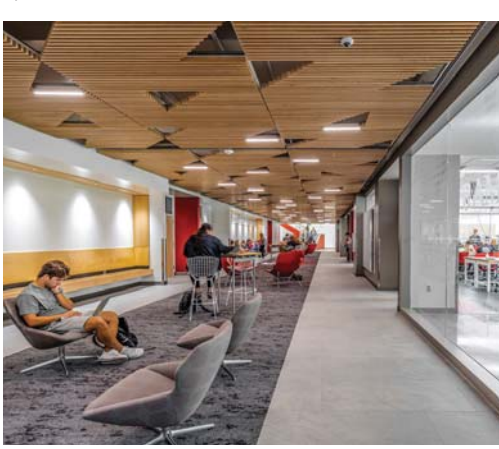
Completion
June 2021

Photographer
Sam Reed Photography

This new state-of-the-art Science, Engineering & Technology Building at Dixie State University includes labs and classrooms for its established science programs and its burgeoning new engineering and technology programs. At the heart of the building is a collaborative student study core that brings all the building's disciplines together to create a community of science and technology learners. These spaces are identified by a wood ceiling meant to evoke a forest canopy.

All of the laboratory spaces are light-filled with views of the beautiful natural landscape that surrounds St. George.

The engineering program has well-equipped student project labs with direct access to a service yard that becomes a critical outdoor overflow project space. The engineering student project labs are adjacent to the woodshop and the prototyping labs, providing the ultimate maker spaces.



STEM TRANSFORMATIONAL INSTITUTE AT FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Miami, Florida

Alleguez Architecture Inc.

Associated firms: Bliss & Nyitray Inc.; MEP Engineering Inc.; Turner Construction Co.

Client
Florida International University

Project area
7,500 sq. ft.

Project cost
$840,000

Project cost/square foot
$112/sq. ft.

Completion
May 2017

Photographer
Ana Alleguez, Alleguez Architecture

Florida International University's STEM Transformational Institute was inspired by the institution's desire to advance STEM education and research. The institute facilitates the adoption of evidence-based teaching and learning practices across disciplines through a living laboratory. The design maximizes creativity, critical thinking and communication among peers to encourage development of ideas while still providing some room for fun and flexibility.

This was achieved through collaborative learning spaces with reconfigurable furniture, repurposed corridors designed for brainstorming, and renovated interior and exterior huddle spaces. At the exterior courtyard, a wall was designated for the display of innovative projects, where a collaborative effort of several disciplines, including the arts and sciences, could be exhibited.

This project was special in the sense that the remodeling and renovation took place in Viertes Haus, one of the oldest buildings on the university's MMC Campus, and was delivered on a fast-tracked schedule. Design through construction documents was completed within 90 days so the construction manager could capitalize on the less busy summer months.

ARIZONA

Creighton University - Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Health Sciences Building (Phoenix)
RDG Planning & Design..... p. 68

CALIFORNIA

Bonnie Oehl Elementary School Modernization (Highland)
PBK .....p. 82

Castaic High School Gymnasium (Castaic)
Ruhnau Clarke Architects..... p. 97

Colton High School Culinary/ Hospitality CTE Complex (Colton)
Ruhnau Clarke Architects..... p. 78

Ina Arbuckle Elementary School Library Modernization (Jurupa Valley)
Ruhnau Clarke Architects.....p. 85

Robert G. Freeman Center for Career and Completion (Pasadena)
A4E (Architecture For Education Inc .....
.....p. 46

Saddleback High School, The Paseo (Santa Ana)
Ruhnau Clarke Architects.....p. 44

San Bernardino City Unified School District Board of Education Building (San Bernardino)
Ruhnau Clarke Architects..... p. 37

SMC Student Services Building (Santa Monica)
Huitt-Zollars .....p. 104

The Choi Family Music Production Center at Occidental College (Los Angeles)
nonzero\architecture .....p. 40

COLORADO

Dr. Justina Ford Elementary School Campus (Littleton)
Jacobs.....p. 86

Gudy Gaskill Elementary School (Littleton)
Jacobs.....p. 79

Newton Middle School Campus (Littleton)
Jacobs..... p. 61

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

*Benjamin Banneker Academic High School
Perkins Eastman DC.....p. 24

*John Lewis Elementary School
Perkins Eastman DC.....p. 25

The MarketPlace
BKP Architects..... p. 43

FLORIDA

The Artificial Intelligence Center at Miami Dade College's North Campus (Miami)
Alleguez Architecture Inc ..... p. 77

The Center for Leadership at Florida International University (Miami)
Alleguez Architecture Inc .....p. 36

NTCA New School (Wesley Chapel)
Wannemacher Jensen Architects Inc
.....pp. 110-111

STEM Transformational Institute at Florida International University (Miami)
Alleguez Architecture Inc .....p. 113

Starkey Ranch Theatre, Library and Cultural Center (Odessa)
FleischmanGarciaMaslowski Architecture.....p. 93

SPC Student Success Center (St. Petersburg)
Wannemacher Jensen Architects, Inc ...
.....pp. 106-107

Tampa Heights Elementary Magnet School (Tampa)
FleischmanGarciaMaslowski Architecture.....p. 75

ILLINOIS

After School Matters Wing of Gately Park (Chicago)
Eckenhoff Saunders ..... pp. 18-19

New Washington Elementary School, Classrooms (Schiller Park)
DLA Architects Ltd ..... p. 51

*New Washington Elementary School, Common Areas (Schiller Park)
DLA Architects Ltd .....p. 22

School of The Art Institute Galleries and Graduate Studios – 33 E. Washington (Chicago)
Weese Langley Weese Architects... p.67

INDIANA

Goshen Intermediate School (Goshen)
Barton Coe Vilamaa Architects & Engineers Inc.....p. 55

*Citation Winner

Lilly Library Renovation (Bloomington)
TowerPinkster ..... **p. 87**

Rossville K-12 Media Center (Rossville)
Lancer + Beebe LLC ..... **pp. 90-91**

MASSACHUSETTS

Hildreth Elementary School (Harvard)
Arrowstreet **p.84**

Ivan G Smith Elementary School (Danvers)
Tappé Architects ..... **p. 57**

Major Howard W. Beal School (Shrewsbury)
Lamoureux Pagano Associates | Architects ..... **p. 59**

Somerville High School, Media Center (Somerville)
SMMA ..... **p. 92**

MICHIGAN

Daverman Hall Nursing School Renovation (Grand Rapids)
C2AE ..... **p. 71**

Grand Rapids Community College, Lakeshore Campus (Holland)
GMB Architecture + Engineering ... **p. 72**

New 4/5 Elementary Building (Coldwater)
TowerPinkster ..... **p. 60**

MINNESOTA

Cathedral High School Addition and Renovations (St. Cloud)
ATSR ..... **p. 109**

MISSOURI

Columbia Public Schools, John Warner Middle School (Columbia)
ACI Boland Architects ..... **p. 83**

New Hall (Columbia)
Cordogan Clark Ittner ..... **p. 102**

South Point Elementary (Washington)
Bond Architects ..... **p. 52**

MONTANA

Gallatin High School (Bozeman)
Cushing Terrell ..... **p. 54**

NEW JERSEY

Proposed Middle School for North Brunswick Township (North Brunswick Township)
USA Architects, Planners + Interior Designers, Ltd ..... **pp. 88-89**

*Rutgers University, Alexander Library, Digital Learning Commons (New Brunswick)
Spiezle Architectural Group Inc ..... **pp. 16-17**

NEW YORK

Greenacres Elementary School Additions and Alterations (Scarsdale)
BBS Architects, Landscape Architects & Engineers, PC ..... **p. 56**

Lobby Addition at The Bronxville School (Bronxville)
LAN Associates ..... **p. 58**

Port Chester-Rye Brook High School Academic Addition (Port Chester)
Fuller & D'Angelo P.C. ..... **p. 69**

Stony Brook University, UNITI Cultural Center (Stony Brook)
DIGroup Architecture, LLC ..... **p. 108**

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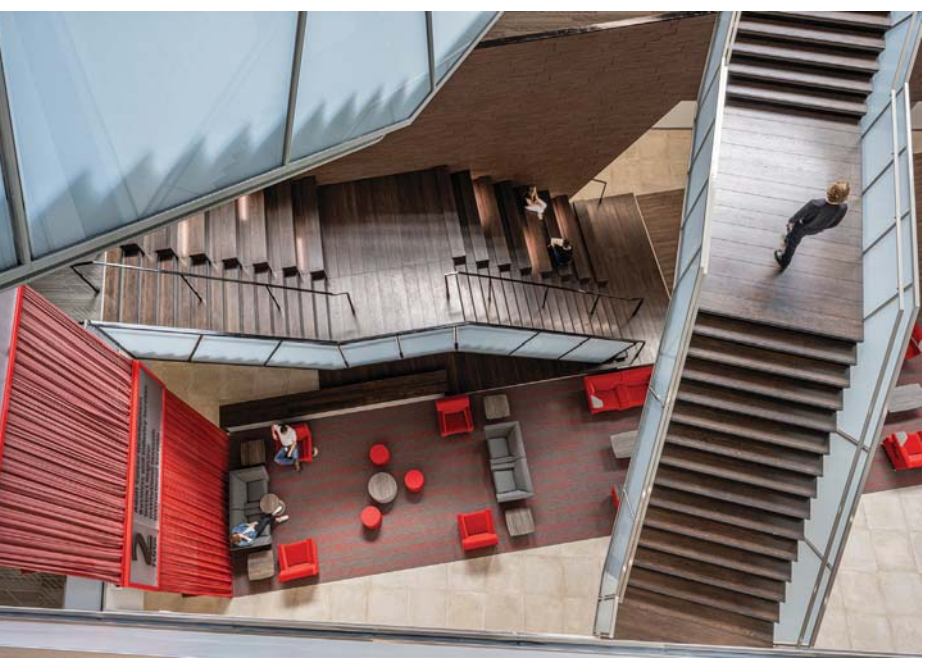

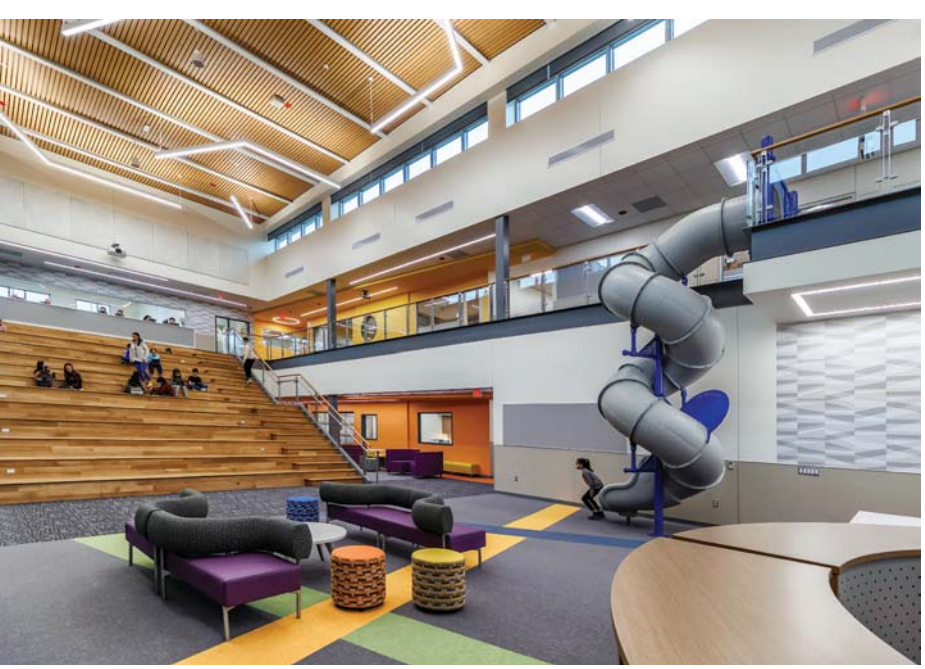

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New Washington Elementary School (Classrooms) ..... **p. 51**
***New Washington Elementary School (Common areas)** ..... **p. 22**

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***After School Matters Wing of Gately Park** ..... **p. 18-19**

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The Graham Athletics & Wellness Center ..... **p. 98**

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Starkey Ranch Theatre, Library and Cultural Center ..... **p. 93**
Tampa Heights Elementary Magnet School ..... **p. 75**

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Port Chester-Rye Brook High School Academic Addition ..... **p. 69**

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Tulsa Technology Center, Lemley Memorial Campus Client Service Center ..... **p. 63**

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Grand Rapids Community College, Lakeshore Campus ..... **p. 72**

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Dr. Justina Ford Elementary School Campus ..... p. 86
Gudy Gaskill Elementary School .....p. 79
Newton Middle School Campus.....p. 61

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Lobby Addition at The Bronxville School ..... p. 58

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Rossville K-12 Media Center..... p. 90-91

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Campbell University, Oscar N. Harris Student Union .....p. 103

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Valence College Preparatory Charter School ..... p. 76

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Mustang Performing Arts Center .....p. 41

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Austin ISD Sánchez Elementary School .... p. 53
Texas School for the Deaf Administration and Welcome Center and Early Learning Center (administrative)..... p. 38
Texas School for the Deaf Administration and Welcome Center and Early Learning Center (pre-kindergarten/early childhood)..... p. 101

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West Bountiful Elementary School .....p. 65
University of Utah Kahlert Village Dining ..... p. 42

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New Chemistry Building .....p. 80-81
Potomac Shores Middle School .....p. 62

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The Choi Family Music Production Center at Occidental College.....p.40

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Ann Richards School..... p. 47

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***Harpeth Hall, Bullard Bright IDEA Lab...p. 21**

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***Redbud Elementary School.....p. 28**

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Bonnie Oehl Elementary School Modernization ..... **p. 82**

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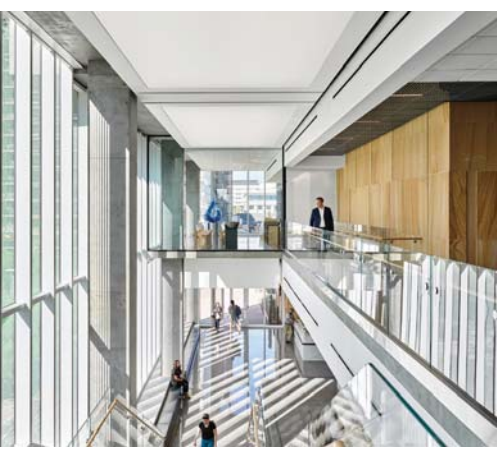
***Benjamin Banneker Academic High School** ..... **p. 24**
***John Lewis Elementary School** ..... **p. 25**



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The Harvey Schools ..... **p. 50**

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Science Learning Commons - Lawrence University ..... **p. 73**

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Creighton University - Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust Health Sciences Building ..... **p. 68**

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Castaic High School Gymnasium ..... **p. 97**
Colton High School Culinary/Hospitality CTE Complex ..... **p. 78**
Ina Arbuckle Elementary School Library Modernization ..... **p. 85**
Saddleback High School, The Paseo ..... **p. 44**
San Bernardino City Unified School District Board of Education Building ..... **p. 37**

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Greenon K-12 School ..... **p. 49**

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Somerville High School, Media Center ..... **p. 92**

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***Rutgers University, Alexander Library, Digital Learning Commons** ..... **pp. 16-17**

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***Meridian High School** ..... **pp. 14-15**

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Ivan G. Smith Elementary School ..... **p. 57**

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Charles F. Brush High School ..... **p. 70**

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Lilly Library Renovation ..... **p. 87**
New 4/5 Elementary Building ..... **p. 60**

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Lincoln Elementary School ..... **p. 100**
Delaware City Schools Renovations & Additions ..... **p. 48**

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Proposed Middle School for North Brunswick Township ..... **p. 88-89**

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Ben Lomond High School Athletic Center ..... **p. 96**
Davis Catalyst Center ..... **p. 45**
Science, Engineering & Technology Building ..... **p. 112**

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NTCA New School ..... **pp. 110-111**
SPC Student Success Center ..... **pp. 106-107**

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School District of Somerset, Wisconsin, High School Addition and Renovation ..... **p. 74**

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Vanguard High School ..... **p. 64**

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The area outside Discovery Hall at Central Washington University provides students and faculty places to pause, sit down, read a book, or have a class.
Credit: Lara Swimmer Photography

CULTURE & VIBE

Creating a great outdoor space.

By Becky Barnhart

The Covid-19 pandemic has greatly increased people's awareness of the importance of green spaces. Suddenly, great outdoor spaces have become crucial to support in-person interaction that simply cannot happen inside. This has been especially true on college and university campuses. Great outdoor spaces not only provide exceptional areas for socialization and learning, but also can act as an excellent marketing and recruiting tool.

When designed and executed well, outdoor spaces emerge as hip, popular, and cool focal points that help communicate campus culture and vibe to potential students and faculty.

Green space

Every space on a campus offers an opportunity to strengthen campus culture and make the environment a better place. Design is not about just the buildings, but also the exterior space surrounding the building, as well as the space between the buildings. Green spaces convey a message about campus culture to prospective students and faculty.

For example, at Discovery Hall at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Wash., the challenge began with how the freestanding Discovery Hall related to a traditional campus gothic building built more than a decade earlier. As a result of two construction phases, a "science neighborhood" was formed. The outdoor spaces between the structures had a distinct character within the campus framework, including exterior science classrooms.

Near Discovery Hall's observatory tower are stone blocks, complemented by audiovisual capabilities, that enable the area to be used as an outdoor classroom when needed. On the north end of the building, a plaza offers taller steps, making an ideal place for students to sit and enjoy the landscape or get together and study.

Faculty members selected specimens from a variety of rock quarries and had them were placed around the building's exterior to enhance the landscape and the lectures held there. In addition, the building sits along a primary pedestrian path and "Art Walk."

Higher education leaders can take guidance from the approach used at Discovery Hall and make green space an integral part of campus culture,

not independent of existing structures and outdoor spaces. To do so, every aspect of campus green space must be designed and developed purposefully to support the overall campus vibe and mission.

Integrating inside and outside

One challenge in designing great outdoor spaces is addressing the needs of the student user groups and faculty who have a vested interest in a building and its exterior spaces. To develop a successful outdoor space, all design aspects should be tied to the programs within adjacent buildings and should fit in with the campus master plan and mission.

Often, designing outdoor spaces in the heart of a campus is more difficult because of tight spaces and often tighter budgets, so project teams should make sure a building's interior floorplan is integrated with the exterior design, and not developed independently of one another. Developing outdoor spaces and building floor plans at the same time will enhance the effectiveness of outdoor spaces.

As a project team studies existing pedestrian and traffic patterns, the placement of a building aims to recognize, relate, and strengthen existing patterns. It also seeks to seize opportunities to improve flow and create new pedestrian patterns. When studying potential campus traffic patterns, designers should try to identify outdoor places where pedestrians can relax. Creating areas for "moments of rest" leads to opportunities for users to interact with one another and the landscape; the space becomes more than just a sidewalk taking students and faculty from one location to another.

At Central Washington's Discovery Hall, both the outdoor classroom beside the observatory tower and the plaza are representative of this unique approach. Both are adjacent to major pedestrian spines, but students and faculty are able to step off the walkway, pause, sit down, read a book, or have a class. North of Discovery Hall is a Japanese garden that also provides moments of rest and respite for students. As a more introspective space, it complements the active outdoor classroom and plaza, delivering exceptional green spaces in the very heart of the campus.

In some ways, the layout is similar to the design of collaborative zones for commercial properties. But on campuses, even those who might not be coming to the building are likely to take advantage of the outdoor spaces.

Unexpected discoveries

Team leaders often find unexpected opportunities early in a design process. For example, if a building site is at a pivotal area on campus, the overall effect will be significant. The same is true for outdoor spaces. Often, they are left out when schools are determining program or building requirements, but when outdoor spaces are included in the design process, they can be crucial addition to campus character and culture and are a key in marketing a higher education institution.

Prospective students choosing which college to attend are looking at an overall campus vibe: Are there outdoor areas to gather,

The Science Courtyard at Eastern Washington University will have a greenhouse, shade trees, ecoregions, plants, and rocks and will be place for the science community to gather.
Credit: Rendering courtesy of Integrus Architecture

Outdoor areas where students can gather, relax, and study, can enhance the culture of a school or university.
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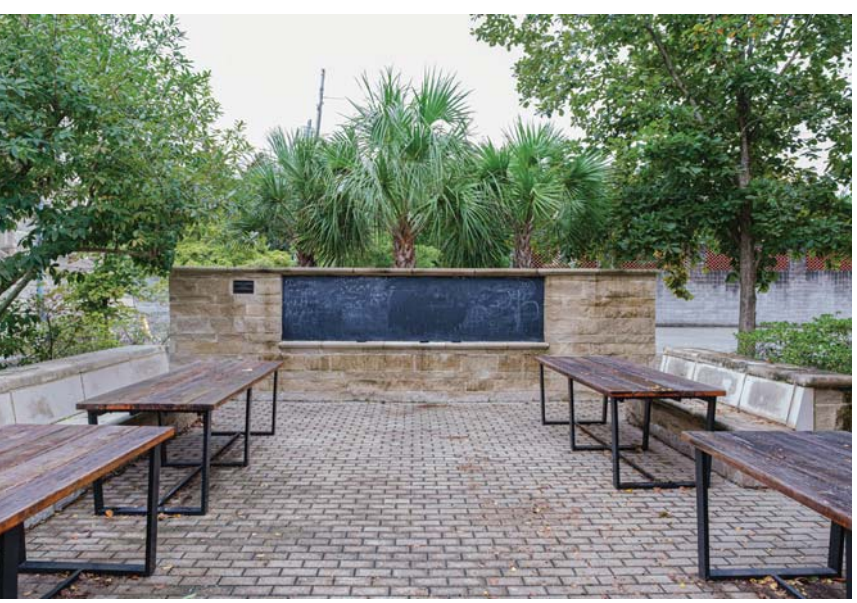

During the pandemic, outdoor learning spaces have provided critical opportunities for in-person student interaction.
credit: Photo 196967160 © William Morgan | Dreamstime.com

relax, and study, and how will they fit into the campus culture? Great outdoor places can meet those needs with a variety of social opportunities.

The pandemic has brought more attention to the value of high-quality outdoor spaces on college campuses, and these spaces, from a recruiting standpoint, invite students and faculty to feel welcome, interact, and be a part of the culture.

For example, the campus at Eastern Washington University has a sizable courtyard, surrounded by buildings (biology, chemistry, physics, and geo-sciences) on every side. But the space has been underused, and the university wants to change that. Designers are looking at ways to activate the courtyard with a goal of creating ecoregions that represent geologic specimens and vegetative varieties in Washington State east of the Cascade Mountains.

The courtyard will house a greenhouse, shade trees, ecoregions, plants, and rocks. The university wants it to become a teaching tool and place for the Eastern Washington science community to gather. Chemistry and physics will be represented with an art piece toward the center of the courtyard to reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the building.

It is crucial for higher education leaders to understand that students are seeking a campus culture where they fit in socially as well as academically. Every aspect of the campus, including buildings and outdoor spaces, speak to that culture and send a message to potential students.

Exciting spaces

Thinking of the ways an outdoor space can become a teaching tool can create excitement among faculty and students, as well as donors. Funding for outdoor spaces often is limited, so inspiring potential donors can make a difference in accomplishing overall project goals and delivering great outdoor places. Team leaders must give the needed attention to outdoor space as they design the nearby facilities.

In turn, the outdoor design can prove to be attractive to donors and become a fundraising focal point. When outdoor spaces have a specific purpose, they quickly become a high priority, and they cannot be easily eliminated from a project without violating a key mission of the project.

This design approach is becoming more common. Design teams are incorporating great outdoor places on campuses as crucial areas for social interaction and as marketing and fundraising tools for the college or university.

For higher education leaders, realizing the benefits and optimizing the value of green spaces can lead to an enhanced student experience. Well-designed outdoor spaces provide social opportunities not available in other areas on campus.

Exterior spaces encourage in-person interaction; they resonate with people and draw them in. Effective outdoor spaces offer areas for relaxation and quiet reflection, and are welcoming to students, faculty, and visitors. They should offer shady spots and seating areas for informal gathering, as well as spaces that can function as outdoor classrooms that represent the disciplines taught within the buildings they surround. ■

Becky Barnhart, AIA is an Architect and Principal with Integrus Architecture. She can be reached at bbarnhart@integrusarch.com.

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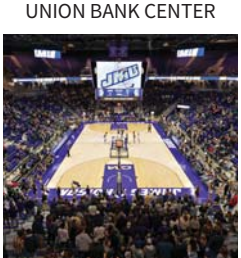

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Architectural Portfolio	121, 129		www.SchoolDesigns.com
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Locking up cell phones

The Thorndale (Texas) district says it will require middle and high school students to lock up their cell phones during school hours.

Thorndale Superintendent Adam Ivy has sent a letter to parents detailing the policy, which will require students to lock their phones "in a magnetically sealed pouch" while they are at school.

The superintendent says that other schools that have enacted this policy assert that "classroom engagement is much better, student distraction is far lower, and the time spent chasing down cyberbullying and cyber safety issues has almost been non-existent."

"After much thought, prayer and discussion we believe that this will absolutely be in the best interest of our students' education, health and safety," Ivy says in the letter.

Under the system, every student will be given a pouch and will be required to place their phone in the pouch as they enter school and close and seal it. Students will keep possession of the pouch, but it will remain locked throughout the school day. When students are departing from school, they will tap their pouches on an unlocking base to open them and release their phones.

Credit: Photo 33865828 © Oksun70 | Dreamstime.com

The policy also will require students to deposit any smart watches and wireless earbuds in the pouches while they are at school.

Superintendents sentenced

Two former school superintendents in Alabama have been sentenced to prison for their roles in a scheme to fraudulently enroll students in virtual schools.

William L. Holladay III, former superintendent of the Athens City (Ala.) district, was sentenced to serve five years in prison and pay more than $2.8 million in restitution to the Alabama education department, the U.S. Justice Department said in a news release. Thomas Sisk, former superintendent of the Limestone County district, was sentenced to serve 18 months in prison, and pay a $15,000 fine and $13,000 in restitution.

The two administrators and two other individuals had pleaded guilty to conspiring to fraudulently enroll students in public virtual schools. They then reported those students' bogus enrollments to the Alabama State Department of Education.

"As a result of this conduct, districts received payments from Alabama's Education Trust Fund as if the students actually attended public schools," the Justice Department said. "The various defendants then received, for their own personal use, portions of the state money. The defendants skimmed the state money through direct cash payments and payments to third-party contractors owned by the various co-conspirators."

The Athens district placed Holladay on leave in 2020 when the Athens district learned of the federal fraud investigation, and his contract subsequently was terminated. Sisk served as Limestone County superintendent from 2012 to 2019; he resigned from a leadership job with the Bristol (Tenn.) district in 2020 after questions were raised about his doctorate from an unaccredited school based in Pakistan.

Starting later

Beginning this fall, high schools in California are prohibited by law from starting classes before 8:30 a.m., and middle schools can't start before 8 a.m.

KABC-TV reports the later starts are mandated under a first-in-the-nation law, passed in 2019, that forbids earlier start times.

Advocates of later starts say teens do better on school work when they're more alert and predict even broader effects: a reduction in suicides and car accidents and improved physical and mental health.

Credit: Photo 120485306 © Nelly Kovalchuk | Dreamstime.com

"Too-early school start times are a national public health concern," says Start School Later, an organization advocating for later school hours. "Besides forcing many children to walk and drive to school in pre-dawn darkness, these hours are creating a generation deprived of the sleep that growing brains and bodies require."

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that middle and high schools start at 8:30 a.m. or later. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends eight to 10 hours of sleep per night for 13- to 18-year-olds.

The average start time for the nation's high schools was 8 a.m. in 2017-18 but about 42% started before then, including 10% that began classes before 7:30 a.m., according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Middle school start times in 2011-12, the most recent available from NCES, were similar.

Opponents of changing start times cite potential logistical challenges like adjusting bus schedules and after-school activities and disrupting family routines built around existing school and work schedules.

Bills related to school start times have been introduced in at least 22 U.S. states in recent years, according to Start School Later, though with limited success.

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