AMERICAN SCHOOL BOARD JOURNAL | SPRING 2010

LEARNING BY DESIGN

The premier source for education design innovation and excellence

Clockwise from top left: University of Houston—Calhoun Lofts, The Poplar Creek Public Library, and Oconomowoc Arts Center

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Hurricane Creek Elementary

Benton, Arkansas

LEARNING BY DESIGN OUTSTANDING PROJECT 2010

Entire School/Campus Building

NEW CONSTRUCTION

JACKSON BROWN KING ARCHITECTS, INC.
12921 Cantrell Road, Suite 201
Little Rock, AR 72223
www.jacksonbrownking.com
Harvey F. "Bunny" Brown IV, AIA, LEED AP
501/664-8700

DESIGN TEAM

James H. Cone Construction, General Contractor

Crafton Tull Sparks & Associates, Landscape Architect

Engineering Consultants, Structural Engineer

Innovative Solutions Group, Mechanical and Plumbing Engineer

Lucas, Merriott & Associates, Electrical Engineer

Mehlburger Firm, Civil Engineer

OWNER/CLIENT

Bryant Public Schools
Bryant, AR

Dr. Richard Abernathy, Superintendent
501/847-5600

KEY STATS

Grades Served: K-5
Capacity: 568 students
Size of Site: 8.1 acres
Building Area: 72,152 square feet
Space per Student: 127 square feet
Cost per Student: $18,395
Square Foot Cost: $145
Construction Cost: $10.4 million
Contract Date: May 2006
Completed: Sept. 2007
Completion: 100%

PHOTOGRAPHY: SHIELDS-MARLEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Hurricane Creek, the first LEED 2.2 Silver elementary school in Arkansas, strives to create a better learning environment while teaching students about green technology. To maintain cost effectiveness for the district, the design team searched for a balance between indoor quality, energy efficiency, and maintenance savings, nearly recouping the cost of the building within its projected life cycle. In a time of rising energy costs, designing green is not only environmentally but also fiscally responsible.

For safety, the building has two major access points: a parental drop-off on the lower level and a bus drop-off on the upper level. This allows children attending the school to avoid crossing traffic areas when accessing the building. By creating bi-level access, we have also minimized the impact on site topography.

Hurricane Creek was designed to maximize the use of natural daylight. Harvesting techniques both lower energy consumption and improve the overall mood of the interior spaces. Continuous post-occupancy system calibrations are performed to ensure maximum efficiency, creating noticeable differences in the classrooms. When the extensive calculations and technical design issues reach resolution, the one true measure of success in any school is the quality of education provided within the walls of the facility. ■