LEARNING BY DESIGN Citation of Excellence 2015

Bellevue High School

Bellevue, WA

New Construction/Addition

Entire school/campus building

NAC Architecture
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DESIGN TEAM
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Teresa Alvarado, LEED AP, Designer
Natalia Nesmeianova, Job Captain
Colin Jones, AIA, LEED AP, Project Principal

OWNER/CLIENT
Bellevue School District
Bellevue, WA
Dr. J. Tim Mills, Superintendent
425/456-4172

KEY STATS
Grades Served: 9–12
Capacity: 1,600 students
Size of Site: 22.4 acres
Building Area: 266,000 sq. ft.
Space per Student: 166 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: $41,690
Square Foot Cost: $251
Construction Cost: $60,331,218
Project Cost: $66,705,209
Completion Date: April 2014
Sustainability Rating System/Applied/Status/Level: WSSP; Energy Star Certified

PHOTOGRAPHY: BENJAMIN BENSCHNEIDER PHOTOGRAPHY

The new Bellevue High School, completed as a phased, occupied addition and modernization, is designed to meet the challenges of 21st-century learning and accommodate potential changes in teaching modalities to provide a flexible 50-year school. The strategic placement of science labs, which are infrastructure intensive, allows the school to adapt to a school-within-a-school model, an academy model or other innovative learning delivery. Informal learning areas at main circulation hubs, in addition to integrated technology, support learning in a variety of group sizes and styles.

Diagonal vertical brick planes physically and symbolically divide public and private areas of the school. Spanning between the

masonry walls, the glazed Commons is a bridge between academic and event spaces. The formal Welcome Plaza north of the Commons creates a gathering area for people to spill into before or after PAC performances. South of the Commons, the brick planes define the private and more casual Wolverine Plaza overlooking the stadium.

Sustainable strategies are also incorporated throughout the campus. Displacement ventilation combined with conditioned air, hydration stations, and daylight harvesting improve the learning areas and conserve resources in the classroom wings. Across the site, bio-swales, green roofs and rain gardens treat and control run-off.