



Jordan Middle School

Jordan, MN

Jordan School District wanted to re-imagine its middle school, constructed circa 1960, into a flexible learning environment capable of supporting a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) program. The design team worked with the school's stakeholders, investigated various grade-level clusters and numerous educational delivery concepts, then designed an extensive renovation and addition program to respond to the district's vision that completely changes its educational delivery.

Simultaneously, the district opted to construct a major addition to the middle school to house a new Community Education and Recreation Center (CERC) to offer all community members needed fitness, recreation and meeting spaces. The resultant facility apportioned students into two academic clusters housing 5-6 grade students and 7-8 grade students, each with flex spaces, labs and teacher support areas, which can accommodate a variety of configurations for student work.

The facility's original shared common areas received minor renovation work. The design team devised a creative adaptation of the building's core, using existing structural columns and raising the roof an additional 15 feet, to house



an expanded mechanical system and bring natural light deep into the commons area through a series of clerestory windows. The raised section also serves to define a new secure entrance adjacent to the school's administrative offices.

This project includes renovating a 118,670 SF facility built in 1965, building an addition of 12,200 SF to support a variety of flexible learning spaces, and creating a 48,145 SF Community Center addition.

The CERC, with its own entry, includes three gym stations with an elevated track, fitness center and community meeting spaces. Large glass windows bring natural light deep into the facility, lighting all recreation and meeting areas. The classroom addition accommodates the district's movement toward a STEAM program

and provides two academic clusters each with ten classrooms and three maker spaces (multipurpose labs) that can be used for science and other subjects. The commons area, the building's heart, seats up to 400 students and focuses on a raised stage area with acoustical ceiling.



Remodel/Adaptive Reuse/Restoration

Entire school/campus building

DLR Group

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DESIGN TEAM

Wenck Construction, Inc., Construction Manager

OWNER/CLIENT

Jordan Independent School District 717
Jordan, MN
Matt Helgeson, Superintendent
952/492-6200

KEY STATS

Grades Served: 5-8
Capacity: 700
Size of Site: 12.5 acres w/120 acres available
Building Area: 181,000 sq. ft.
Space per Student: 258 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$49,928
Square Foot Cost: \$150/sq.ft. (renovation); \$226/sq.ft. (new construction)
Project Cost: \$34,950,000
Completion Date: December 2015

PHOTOGRAPHY: BRANDON STENDEL

