

Selah Middle School

Selah, WA

Selah Middle School draws inspiration from the natural geography and agricultural industry of the Yakima River Valley. "Box"-shaped portions of the building are reminiscent of stacked apple crates paying homage to the prevalence of the apple industry and orchards in the Selah community and economy. Metal panel emulating the crate color and texture, highlight feature spaces within the building such as the commons, gymnasium and library. Contrasting brick and ground-face concrete block, responding to the columnar basalt cliffs and outcroppings in the Yakima River Valley, provides a tactile, durable exterior finish and a timeless connection to traditional educational facility aesthetics.

The building layout evolved around two courtyards with shared spaces accessed off of north-south corridors located east and west of the courtyards and with three grade-level classroom corridors linking east-west to form the courtyards. Breakout spaces looking into the courtyards created informal learning spaces and social opportunities celebrating the connection of the building to the natural geography and agricultural industry represented within the landscaping design of the courtyards.

New Construction/Addition

Entire school/campus building

NAC Architecture

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DESIGN TEAM

Brent Harding, Principal-in-Charge
 Melissa McFadgen, Project Manager
 Angela Bishop, Architectural Technician
 Scott Nicks, Architectural Designer
 March Chouinard, BIM/Revit Model Manager

OWNER/CLIENT

Selah School District No. 119
 Selah, WA
 Shane Backlund, Superintendent
 509/697-0702

KEY STATS

Grades Served: 6-8
 Capacity: 800
 Size of Site: 23 acres
 Building Area: 115,271 sq. ft.
 Space per Student: 144 sq. ft.
 Cost per Student: \$44,875
 Square Foot Cost: \$337
 Project Cost: \$35,900,000
 Completion Date: January 2015
 Sustainability Rating Status: WSSP

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