



EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Discovery STEM Academy Newport News, VA



Located in Newport News, Virginia, the new Discovery STEM Academy replaces the existing school and serves 850 students, grades PreK through 5. The new school embraces Newport News Public Schools' significant STEM initiative where learning spaces facilitate learner-centered, student-driven, real-world, project-based learning.

The design of the school promotes the idea that students should be exposed to holistic learning opportunities that advance their intellect, health, and spirit. The four fundamental principles intended to promote a holistic student are Leadership, Nutrition, Fitness, and Discovery. The new three-story building is located on the northern edge of the site; it was critical for the school to address the historical significance of Chestnut Avenue within the community.

With the compact multi-story footprint of the new school, green space is given back to the school and the community. The existing school facility was demolished and replaced with a new ball field, playground structures and paved play areas, creating a large community green space at the prominent corner of Chestnut Avenue and 17th Street.

An outdoor classroom, outdoor learning area, amphitheater, student vegetable garden, and kindergarten play areas are located on the site in courtyards adjacent to the building.

### New Construction/Addition Entire school/campus building

#### Grimm + Parker Architects

8609 Westwood Center Dr., Ste. 425  
Tysons, VA 22182  
grimmandparker.com  
Paul Klee, AIA, LEED AP  
703/903-9100

#### DESIGN TEAM

Grimm + Parker Architects, Architect/Design Firm  
Timmons Group, Civil Engineer  
Lynch Mykins, Structural Engineer  
Ascent Engineers, MEP Engineer  
Oyster Point Construction, General Contractor/  
Builder  
Foodservice Consultants Studio, Foodservice  
Wright School Planning Services, Educational  
Planner

#### OWNER/CLIENT

Newport News Public Schools  
Newport News, VA  
Dr. Ashby Kilgore, Superintendent  
757/591-4500

#### KEY STATS

Grades Served: PreK-5  
Capacity: 850 students  
Size of Site: 10 acres  
Building Area: 97,000 gsf  
Space per Student: 114 sq. ft.  
Cost per Student: \$27,059  
Square Foot Cost: \$237  
Project Cost: \$23,000,000  
Completion Date: September 2016

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