



EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Grand Rapids Community College—Phyllis Fratzke Early Childhood Learning Laboratory Grand Rapids, MI



Stantec Architecture worked with GRCC to relocate the existing early childhood program onto their campus, raising its profile and expanding its impact on the local community and college. The new facility fulfills the dual role of providing high quality early childhood education to the community while supporting practical education training for future teachers.

The building is sited at the edge of campus, creating a transition between the neighborhoods to the east and the academic buildings to the west. The Learning Laboratory features eight adaptable classroom laboratories (infant, toddler, preschool, and adult), a family reception lobby, administrative support offices, and a flexible multi-purpose room for gross motor activities and community events. Access to natural light and the ability to open the building to the exterior from every classroom were guiding design principles; the classrooms are placed in two separate wings, providing direct access from each classroom to secure, age-appropriate outdoor learning areas.

With the addition of the Phyllis Fratzke Early Childhood Learning Laboratory, GRCC has improved its service to the community and elevated its ability to educate future caregivers and teachers.



New Construction/Addition Childcare center

Stantec Architecture Inc.

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DESIGN TEAM

Janice Suchan, AIA, LEED AP, Principal-in-Charge
Chris Mackey, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, Project Manager
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OWNER/CLIENT

Grand Rapids Community College
Grand Rapids, MI
JaneAnn Benson, Director of Early Childhood Learning Laboratory
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KEY STATS

Grades Served: Early Childhood / College
Capacity: 122 Infant to Preschool and 32 FTE College Students
Size of Site: 2 acres
Building Area: 22,300 gsf
Space per Student: 183 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$69,672
Square Foot Cost: \$381
Project Cost: \$8,500,000
Completion Date: January 2017
Sustainability Rating Status: LEED NC 2009

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