



## Alvin ISD - Mark Twain Elementary School

Alvin, TX

### New Construction/Addition Entire School/Campus Building

#### SHW Group

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Erin Machac, AIA  
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#### DESIGN TEAM

Tracy Eich, AIA, LEED AP, Principal Designer, SHW Group  
Eddie Blanco, AIA, Project Architect, SHW Group  
Erin Joseph Machac, AIA, Project Manager, Architect of Record, SHW Group  
Kevin Moeder, PE, Structural Engineer, SHW Group  
Mark Seibert, PE, LEED AP, Mechanical Engineer, CMTA  
Zachary Schneider, PE, LEED AP, Electrical Engineer, CMTA

#### OWNER/CLIENT

Alvin ISD  
Alvin, TX  
Fred Brent, ED. D, Superintendent  
281/388-1130

#### KEY STATS

Grades Served: K-5  
Capacity: 800 students  
Size of Site: 13 acres  
Building Area: 102,000 sq. ft.  
Space per Student: 128 sq. ft.  
Cost per Student: \$17,746  
Square Foot Cost: \$139  
Construction Cost: \$14.1 million  
Contract Date: May 2010  
Completed: Aug 2012

PHOTOGRAPHY: ELENA GREY; LUIS AYALA



The existing Mark Twain Elementary School was the first elementary school to be built in Alvin ISD. While it served the district well for 47 years, an increasing student population necessitated growth. During Bond Planning it was determined that a replacement school was the best strategy to increase the capacity from 600 to the necessary 800 students. This new elementary school steps into uncharted design territory for the district as their first two story elementary school. This project ensures



a smaller footprint, translating into less land costs, as well as lower lifetime roof expenditures. The two-story design permits the majority of classrooms to have exterior views and natural light. Solar tubes provide the majority of the building's lighting during daytime. Geothermal ground source heat pumps serve to more efficiently cool the building.

Another key element in the design is visible in the centrally located library. The library spans the full height of the building plus additional clere-

story windows. Oriented along the N/S axis, clear glazing creates the exterior boundaries of the library. This transparency provides ample natural light and establishes a strong visual connection between the interior and exterior environments. Elements of Mark Twain's stories are incorporated directly into the building design.

