



Casey Middle School

Boulder, CO

New Construction/Addition Green/Sustainable Design

RB+B Architects, Inc.
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DESIGN TEAM

RB+B Architects, Inc., Architect
Saunders Construction, Contractor
JVA, Inc., Structural/Civil Engineer
EMC Engineers, Mechanical Engineer
MKK Consulting Engineers, Electrical Engineer
YRG Consultants, LEED Consultant

OWNER/CLIENT

Boulder Valley School District
Boulder, Co
Bruce K. Messinger, PhD.
720/561-2700

KEY STATS

Grades Served: 6-8
Capacity: 600 students
Size of Site: 8.4 acres
Building Area: 106,458 sq. ft.
Building Volume: 2.9 million cu. ft.
Space per Student: 177 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$38,876
Square Foot Cost: \$219
Construction Cost: \$23.3 million
Total Project Cost: \$31.1 million
Contract Date: Jan. 2009
Completed: Aug. 2010
Sustainability Rating System/Applied/Status/Level: LEED Platinum Certified

PHOTOGRAPHY: DAVID PATTERSON PHOTOGRAPHY



Constructed in 1924, Casey Middle School is an historic centerpiece in its neighborhood but was desperately in need of repair. Careful analysis determined renovating the building would be cost prohibitive and programmatically restrictive. The design team worked with district and community stakeholders to design a solution preserving two historic facades while expanding interior spaces to promote 21st century learning.



The new school uses contemporary forms in contrast with the historic walls. A new main entry opens into the commons, which serves as the cafeteria and student social space. The adjacent three-story library nestles against the historic western façade while classrooms are grouped around common spaces of lockers, break-out space, and teacher planning areas. North facing windows and tubular skylights provide daylighting.

Half the parking is tucked under the building and the classroom wing maintains its three stories on the 8.4-acre urban site. A solar array doubles as covered bicycle parking and illustrates the district's commitment to sustainability.

The school achieved LEED Platinum certification – a first for any school in the state of Colorado and only the second middle school in the nation to achieve Platinum. High performance strategies include daylighting, a ground-source heat pump system, green roof, and xeriscaping.