Elmwood Park High School Addition and Remodeling

Elmwood Park, IL

New Construction/Addition

Science Center

DLA Architects, Ltd.
Two Pierce Place, Ste. 1300 · Itasca
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Carrie Matlock, AIA, LEED AP BD+C · 847/742-4063

DESIGN TEAM
Steven K. Wright, AIA, Principal-in-Charge
Matthew C. Stoub, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C, Project Architect and Designer
Berg Engineering Consultants, Ltd., Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing & Fire Protection Engineering Services
Pease Borst & Associates, LLC, Structural Engineering Services
W-T Civil Engineering, LLC, Civil Engineering

OWNER/CLIENT
Elmwood Park Community Unit School District #401
Elmwood Park, IL
Dr. Kevin Anderson, Superintendent
708/452-7292

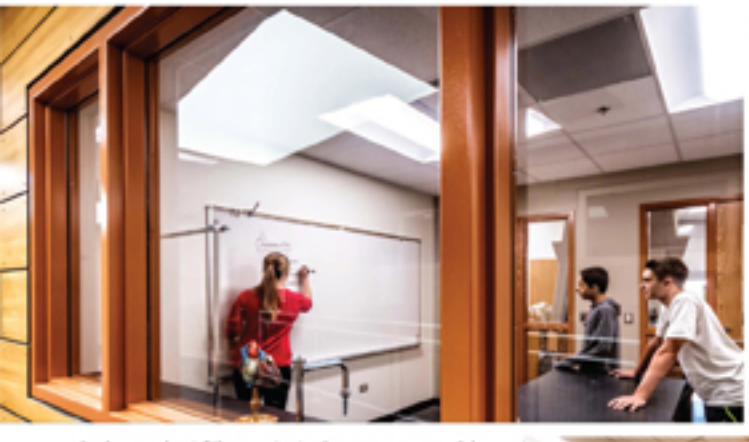
KEY STATS
Grades Served: 9-12
Capacity: 224
Size of Site: 1.35 acres
Building Area: 17,250 sq. ft.
Space per Student: 77 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: $22,716
Square Foot Cost: $295
Construction Cost: $5,088,390
Project Cost: $9,160,440
Completion Date: August 2015

PHOTOGRAPHY: DLA ARCHITECTS, LTD./ALEXANDER ROMANOVSKY

The aging, deteriorated existing science labs demanded a renovation; the real challenge arose from a series of meetings the architect held with the board, administration and staff. From here, it was determined massive change was in order to serve the district's pedagogy for 21st-century education. The resulting addition is essentially a single learning space with flexible labs and small group spaces that are open to the Flex Learning Corridor.

Designed for next generation science standards, the addition blends core ideas and concepts across science disciplines; the labs are virtually interchangeable between disciplines (Earth and Space Sciences, Physical Science, Life Science and Chemistry). First floor labs feature translucent "garage doors" that open directly to the Flex Learning Corridor, which is the main arterial corridor. This corridor breakout space is a large lab designed to increase student interaction and collaboration.

Dedicated lecture space was eschewed in favor of group lab stations that encourage student collaboration and feature motorized countertops to switch between standing lab configuration and seated test taking/lecture mode. Ancillary experimental spaces are provided for staff collaboration and experiments.



Independent/itinerant study spaces provide an additional venue for problem-based learning projects, group learning, research, presentations and project display.