

## Dr. Phinnize J. Fisher Middle School—Greenville County Schools

Greenville, SC

Greenville County Schools' Dr. Phinnize J. Fisher Middle School is the first STEAM-based middle school in the state, and one of the first in the nation. By combining a STEM philosophy with an integrated element of arts and design throughout every subject of inquiry, the district has built a student experience more akin to Da Vinci's studio of hands-on exploration than the traditional middle school.

McMillan Pazdan Smith consulted a collaborative team of key community stakeholders, along with representatives of a major university partner, who then teamed with an international leader in educational space planning and a well-respected regional architectural design and planning firm, Fielding Nair International, to create a STEAM curriculum around project-based learning. The school is a symbol of 21st-century education and this process of creating a school from the curriculum out, rather than designing a new facility and shaping the curriculum to fit the physical space, questioned the most

### New Construction/Addition

#### Entire school/campus building

#### McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture

P.O. Box 5331 • Spartanburg, SC 29304  
[www.mcmillanpazdansmith.com](http://www.mcmillanpazdansmith.com)  
 Paul Mussman • 864/585-5678

#### Fielding Nair International

[www.fieldingnair.com](http://www.fieldingnair.com)

#### DESIGN TEAM

McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture, Architect of Record  
 Fielding Nair International, Educational Facility Planner, Co-Design Architect  
 Harper Corporation, Contractor

#### OWNER/CLIENT

Greenville County Schools  
 Greenville, SC  
 W. Burke Royster, Superintendent  
 864/355-3100

#### KEY STATS

Grades Served: 6-8  
 Capacity: 1,000  
 Size of Site: 27 acres  
 Building Area: 179,000 sq. ft.  
 Space per Student: 179 sq. ft.  
 Cost per Student: \$29,400  
 Square Foot Cost: \$164  
 Construction Cost: \$29,400,000  
 Project Cost: \$34,000,000  
 Completion Date: July 2014  
 Sustainability Rating System/Applied/Status/Level:  
 Certified 3 Green Globes

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basic assumptions about how to create 21st-century students.

Fisher Middle School is not only an incredible example of collaboration in the facility planning process, but is also a working case study in relationships between public school districts and universities, civic institutions and the corporate community.

