

Alvarado Junior High School Alvarado, TX



The design of Alvarado Junior High was influenced by staff who wanted to push the envelope and create a new standard for instructional delivery. The goal was to merge project-based learning strategies with a progressive learning environment. The result is a modern facility that will act as a benchmark for future projects. The school is broken down by grade level, creating two distinct spaces for 7th grade on the lower level and 8th grade on the second level. Each grade is then separated into smaller academic pods that contain classrooms and labs centered on a living room or shared space.

Classrooms in the pods have large interior windows, creating transparency to the shared space, which enhances an active learning environment and mimics many aspects of the workplace.

A large commons is the focal point, which serves as a gathering space. Also centrally located is the library, which features a "genius lounge," providing informal social space for small group and individual study, and the opportunity for students to serve as technological "geniuses" to others. The facility also incorporates outdoor learning courtyards that connect to the pods and feature comfortable seating and planter boxes that can be used for science experiments.

New Construction/Addition

Entire school/campus building

Huckabee

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DESIGN TEAM

Christopher M. Huckabee, AIA, Principal
Craig Drone, AIA, Project Architect
Konrad Judd, AIA, Designer
Estes, McClure & Associates, MEP Engineering
Adams Consulting Engineers, Civil Engineering

OWNER/CLIENT

Alvarado Independent School District
Alvarado, TX
Dr. Kenneth Estes, Superintendent
817/783-6800

KEY STATS

Grades Served: 7-8
Capacity: 750
Size of Site: 25.65 acres
Building Area: 121,000 sq. ft.
Space per Student: 161 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$36,361
Square Foot Cost: \$224
Construction Cost: \$27,120,918
Project Cost: \$28,880,256
Completion Date: August 2015

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