



COMBINED-LEVEL SCHOOL

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School Cambridge, MA

In support of Cambridge Public Schools' (CPS) pursuit of academic excellence, the team designed a 21st-century, technology-rich, learning environment that has become the center of its community. The four-story building is home to two separate CPS schools, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School (MLK) and Putnam Avenue Upper School (PAUS), plus a preschool and two after-school programs. Separate academic wings for MLK and PAUS operate as distinct "academic neighborhoods," connected by an internal thoroughfare. After hours, these spaces can be closed and secured to conserve energy. The front courtyard creates a new community gathering place and features distinct entrances for both the lower and upper schools.



New Construction/Addition Entire school/campus building

Perkins Eastman

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DESIGN TEAM

WT Rich, Construction Manager
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Geotechnical Services
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OWNER/CLIENT

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KEY STATS

Grades Served: PreK-8
Capacity: 840 students
Size of Site: 3.39 acres
Building Area: 190,000 gsf (includes 18,000 sf garage)
Space per Student: 226 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$83,333
Square Foot Cost: \$369
Project Cost: \$79,977,400
Completion Date: December 2015
Sustainability Rating Status: targeting LEED Platinum

PHOTOGRAPHY: ROBERT BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY

The design inspires the use of the building as a teaching tool. For example, cutouts in the corridors expose and describe the building's wall systems. Windows open into the mechanical room and illustrate how water and energy flow through the building and relate to the surrounding environment. Signage throughout the building further describes building systems and

environmental processes.

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School, expecting LEED® Platinum certification, currently uses 60% less energy than typical educational buildings in New England and provides approximately 45% of its energy through photovoltaics on the building.



