



EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Colegrove Park Elementary School North Adams, MA



PETER VANDERWARKER

DORRIE BROOKS

Built as the North Adams high school in 1916, this 71,700 gsf edifice offered large, well-built classrooms, with amazing views of the Berkshires and downtown North Adams. It

had defined the eastern edge of the city for 100 years. With major investment, this thoroughly renovated building has become a handsome K-7 school, blending history, architecture, and pedagogy in a statement of permanence to the community.

With two grades per floor, the youngest learners start at the ground level and ascend over time to the 3rd floor, where 6th and 7th graders are team taught. Breakout rooms located between classrooms on the lower floors support small group instruction, while a large common area on the top floor enables group projects among older students.

Large windows daylight the classrooms lavishly, and surviving historic details have been unearthed and preserved—terrazzo and hardwood floors, marble and granite details, stained glass windows, elaborately carved columns and friezes, and metal stair railings. Yet the latest in teaching technologies and collaborative spaces have been added to bridge the 20th and 21st centuries.

By preserving this iconic and well-built school building, 2100 tons of carbon were offset, and at least one third of the student enrollment walks to school. The reactivation of this side of downtown is a major benefit to the city of North Adams.

Remodel/Adaptive Reuse/Restoration

Entire school/campus building

Jones Whitsett Architects

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Greenfield, MA 01301
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DESIGN TEAM

Jones Whitsett Architects, Architect
Dietz & Company Architects, Inc., Associate Architect
Guntlow Associates, Civil Engineer/Landscape Architect
Structures North Consulting, Structural Engineer
Hesnor Engineering Associates, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing & Fire Protection

OWNER/CLIENT

North Adams Public Schools
North Adams, MA
Barbara Malkas, EdM

KEY STATS

Grades Served: K-7
Capacity: 310 students
Size of Site: 3.7 acres
Building Area: 78,170 gsf
Space per Student: 252 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$70,494
Square Foot Cost: \$279.56
Project Cost: \$21,853,267
Completion Date: January 2016
Sustainability Rating Status: LEED Gold

PHOTOGRAPHY: PETER VANDERWARKER; DORRIE BROOKS



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