



EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Norton Commons Elementary School Louisville, KY



Our team led this on-going planning effort to provide Norton Commons with a combined elementary school and YMCA. The two distinct facilities will share the same site, and will be connected by a common gymnasium. This project involves close collaboration between Jefferson County Public Schools, the YMCA, and Norton Commons. We are also working closely with David Tomes, the local developer, and Mike Watkins, the Town Architect for Norton Commons.

Norton Commons is a New Urbanist Community designed by Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company and has very strong axial design linking the public buildings in the community.

Based on a prototype designed by our firm, the school plan had to be adapted to the town plan and the connection to the YMCA. The school and its front lawn face west to the large central park and main street crossing.

Crossings to the north and south are also minor axes in the plan and were carefully designed to link into the plan. From the west entry portico, the building lays out in two wings forming a courtyard for PreK and Kindergarten play areas. The north wing contains the Administration, Cafeteria, Art, Music and Gymnasium (YMCA). The south wing holds PreK, Kindergarten, and Grades 1–2. Grades 3, 4, and 5 are located on the second floor.



New Construction/Addition

Entire school/campus building

VBNA, Inc.

640 South 4th St.
Louisville, KY 40202
www.vbnarchitects.com
Patrick Blackburn, AIA LEED AP
502/589-5674

DESIGN TEAM

Morel Construction, General Contractor
CMTA, Consulting Engineers Inc., MEP Engineering
Slesser Engineering, Structural Engineers
Sabak, Wilson, Lingo Engineers, Site Design

OWNER/CLIENT

Jefferson County Public Schools
Louisville, KY
Susan Biasioli, Director of Facility Planning
502/485-3715

KEY STATS

Grades Served: PreK–5
Capacity: 600 students
Size of Site: 7.5 acres
Building Area: 88,340 gsf
Space per Student: 147 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$27,000
Square Foot Cost: \$183
Project Cost: \$16,200,000
Completion Date: August 2016
Sustainability Rating Status: Energy Star

PHOTOGRAPHY: DAVID MODICA, PHOTOGRAPHY