



HIGH SCHOOL

Arnold O. Beckman High School—New Classroom Building Addition

Irvine, CA



A new two-story campus building on the Beckman High School campus offers 17 classrooms, offices, conference rooms, a data center, and support spaces. Affectionately nicknamed “The Colosseum” by students, the building features a curvilinear design as a direct response to a physical environment defined by a challenging trapezoidal site and a campus consisting of boxy shapes, sparse vegetation, and a lack of shade protection from the sun. Curving the building not only resulted in a facility capable of increasing the school’s capacity as needed by the district, but offered new opportunities for student learning and social interaction.

One opportunity was the creation of small group learning spaces between classrooms to be used as student breakout rooms or one-to-one teacher-student instruction. Another was a new courtyard with drought-tolerant landscaping that serves as a tranquil learning and community environment.

For pedagogical functions, ground floor classrooms offer flexible learning 21st century learning environments through folding wall partitions surfaced with marker boards as

well as multimedia projection systems and information technology.

New Construction/Addition

Entire school/campus building

Rachlin Partners

8640 National Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90232
www.rachlinpartners.com
Michael Rachlin, AIA, LEED AP
310/204-3400

DESIGN TEAM

Michael Rachlin, AIA, LEED AP, Principal-in-Charge
John Thomas, AIA, Project Manager
Jennifer Harrison, AIA, Designer
Paul Dragescu, AIA, Designer
Mario Suson, CAD Manager

OWNER/CLIENT

Tustin Unified School District
Irvine, CA
Dr. Gregory Franklin, Superintendent
714/730-7305

KEY STATS

Grades Served: 9–12
Capacity: 510 students
Size of Site: 1.07 acres
Building Area: 26,895 gsf
Space per Student: 53 sq. ft.
Cost per Student: \$23,823
Square Foot Cost: \$452
Project Cost: \$12,150,000
Completion Date: August 2015

PHOTOGRAPHY: TOM BONNER

