

Roger Wellington School

'Double school' merges civic and residential scales

In order to reduce the perceived size of a school for 575 elementary students, the building is organized into two 'schools-within-a-school'. The upper and lower schools have their own identity but share common spaces such as the gymnasium, cafeteria, and administration offices.

Features

- Generous glazing and light shelf devices enable significant electrical load reduction
- MA-CHPS certified, LEED Silver certifiable
- Green roof garden provides exterior access for second floor classrooms
- Large building size mitigated by aggregated massing and varied site setbacks.

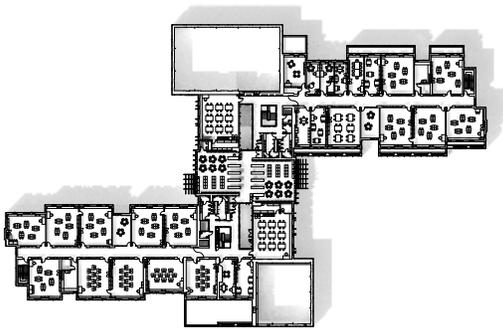
Recognition

- 2015 American Architecture Award, The Chicago Athenaeum and The European Center
- 2015 Honor Award for Design Excellence, AIA/New England
- 2013 Harleston-Parker Award, AIA/Boston Society of Architects & City of Boston
- 2013 Honor Award Education Facilities Design, AIA/Boston Society of Architects & AIA New York
- 2013 Honor Award for Design Excellence, AIA/Boston Society of Architects

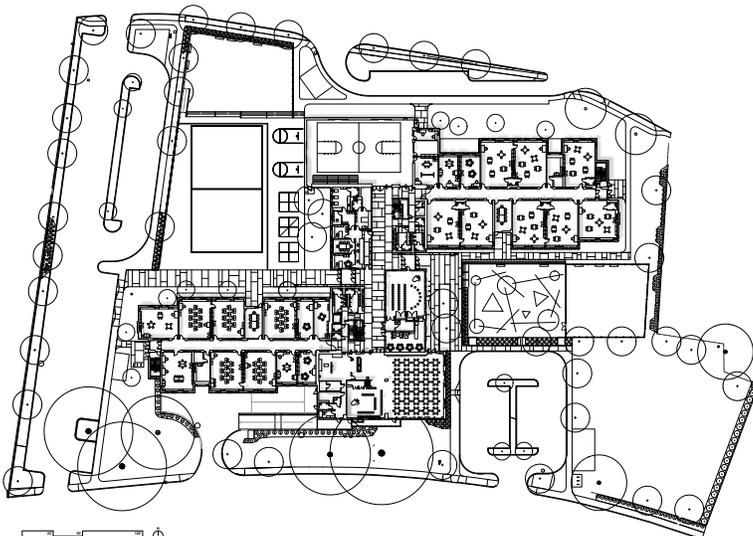


The site plan interfaces with a dense urban context and provides for a range of heavily programmed outdoor spaces





Upper Floor Plan



Lower Floor Plan

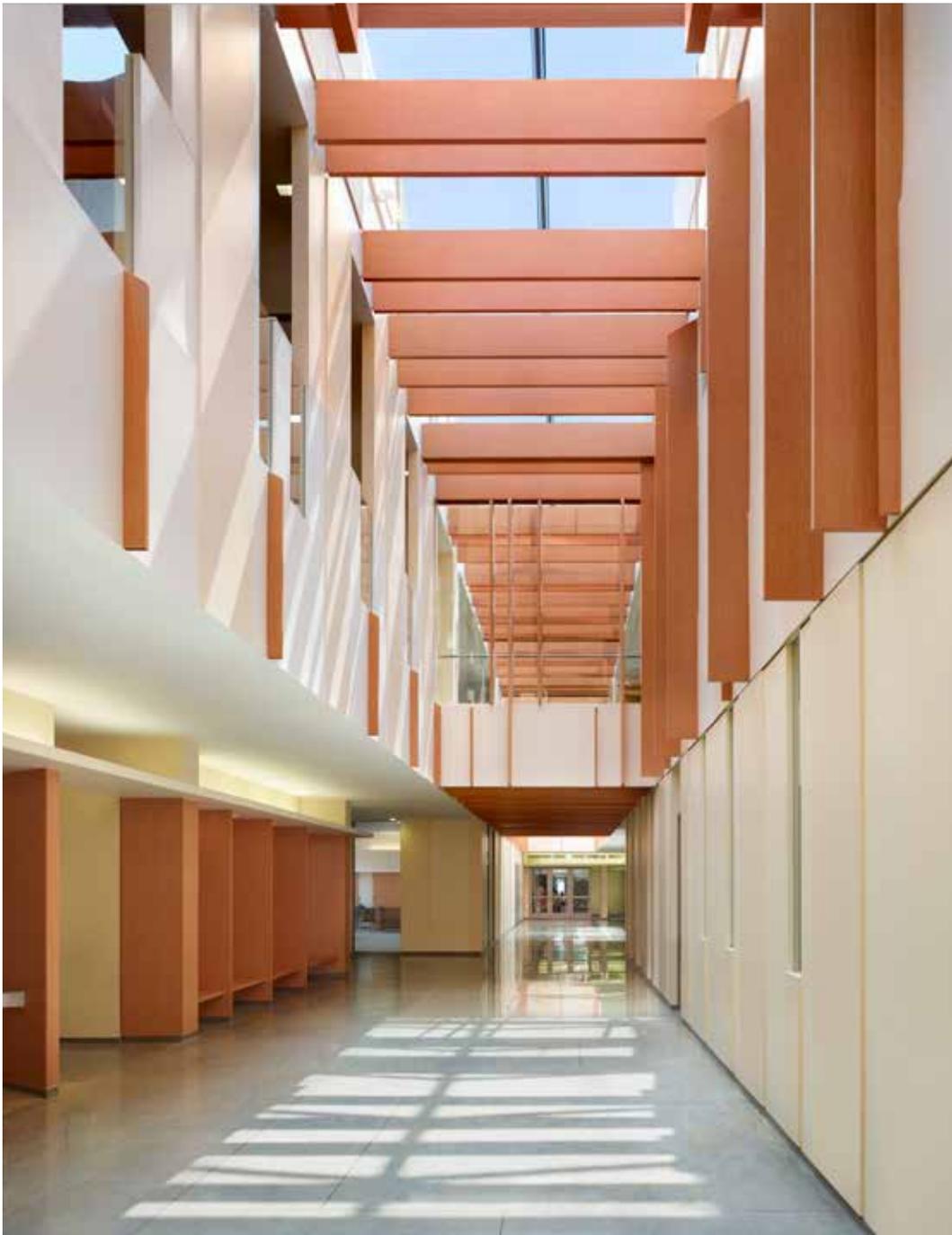
- **Campus sensitive design:** Modulation of massing and elevations to address both residential context and public building entrance scales
- **Masterplan coordination:** Integration of building footprint with creation of multiple heavily programmed site sub-areas and access points
- **Commons/Community Hub:** Food service servery/food prep, Multiple Meeting/Conferencing environments
- **Sustainability:** LEED Silver certifiable project. 100% primary program daylighting, geothermal system
- **Multi-use Program:** Heterogeneous scale functions - repeated small assembly, large assembly, clerical, office cells, service
- **Way-finding:** Large building circulation with way-finding and orientation clarity
- **Complex Site:** Dual frontage, multiple site uses, separation of service vehicles, public site amenities, complex drop-off/parking
- **Process Complexity:** Multi-tiered client and civic approval structure, multi-phase delivery, CM at Risk delivery



100% daylight classroom with integrated fixtures



Dining commons



◀ The skylit spine spans between the upper and lower schools and the 'suspended' library

Program

This pre-K through 4 public elementary school is located on an impacted suburban, residential site. Building and site planning were tightly coordinated to achieve an efficient use of exterior space while accommodating significant amount of parking and vehicular access. The project involves the abatement and demolition of an existing two and three story structure, the implementation of site improvements and construction of a new building configured into two 'schools within a school' connected by a one-story core.

The design team worked closely with the various user groups and the Massachusetts School Building Authority to create a working program document that guided design decision making. Program components included classrooms, staff and administrative offices, full-service cafeteria, staff lounge, gymnasium and library as well as various multi-use spaces. Spatial modules were employed that allow for the future flexible relocation of uses as needs evolve. The building is designed for potential LEED certification with such features as natural light to every learning and working space, a high performance exterior envelope, maximized use of daylighting to reduce electrical consumption, architectural devices to reduce solar heat gain, aspects of passive ventilation, a green roof garden at the second floor, and a highly efficient mechanical system.

During the initial stages, the architectural team devised three alternative phasing plans for client occupation of the site during construction. Services include full interior design and FF&E selection. Through utilization of integrated design principles and Building Information Modeling (BIM), the JLA team accelerated the design development to bid documents schedule to 9 months.

JLA Role
Lead Design Architect/Architect of Record

Associate Architect
Burt Hill, Boston (currently Stantec)

Personnel Jonathan Levi FAIA, *Lead Designer/Principal-in-Charge*;
Ian Ford AIA, *Project Architect*;
Diana Nicklaus AIA, *Project Manager*

Client Town of Belmont

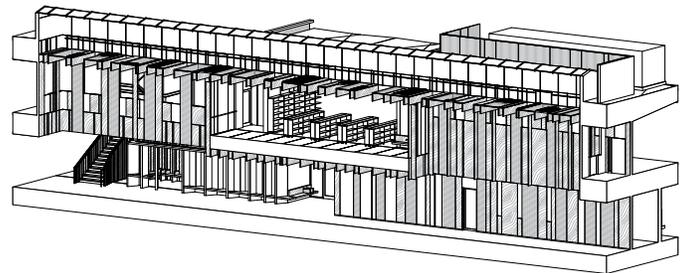
Location Belmont, MA

Size 88,000 sf

Construction Cost \$28.8M

Completion & Occupancy 9/2011

▼ The library hovers at the center of the skylit lobby



LIBRARY SECTION