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Owner:

Virginia Beach Public Schools

Project Cost:

\$9,047,000

Project Size:

85,500 sf

Cost per Square Foot:

\$105.81/sf

Completion Date:

January 2005

Consultants:

n/a



Project Description:

Hermitage Elementary School is a primary educational facility for Virginia Beach City Public Schools, designed to accommodate up to 750 K-5 grade children. The LEED® Green Building Rating System was used as a design guide and benchmarking tool throughout the design and construction process to create long-lasting value for the school's owners and occupants. The project included the demolition of most of the existing school and the construction of a new facility. The school attempted to minimize its environmental impact by building on the existing school's site and incorporating the existing gymnasium into the new facility and using the space for a band room, art room and special projects room.

In order to provide a comfortable environment for the students, faculty, and staff, protecting and verifying the facility's indoor air quality (IAQ) was of utmost importance during construction. The health and well-being of the children is also enhanced through careful material selection, permanent carbon dioxide, temperature, and humidity monitoring, and increased airflow, again exceeding ASHRAE standards.

Green Features:

Other steps taken when incorporating LEED® features into the school include:

- locating the facility within ¼ mile of three public bus lines;
- providing bicycle storage and changing rooms for staff;
- featuring EnergyStard compliant roof surfaces;
- eliminating permanent irrigation on site;
- reducing potable water consumption by over 30 percent;
- designation space for storage and collection of recyclables; and
- adhering to a construction indoor air quality management plan.