

# FACILITIES FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LEARNING

## Ideas for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Facilities

### Outdoor Learning Opportunities

#### Design Considerations

- Separate faculty, visitor, and kindergarten parking.
- Separate kindergarten and main entrances.
- Separate drives for parent drop-off and buses.
- Provide a blacktop area.
- Provide exterior lighting.
- Provide fire vehicle access.
- Provide aesthetically-pleasing fencing.
- Provide a service entry.
- Provide a delivery entrance with access to kitchen.
- Maintain landscaping.

#### Lighting

- Include exterior security lighting with motion detectors and/or photo-cell timer for parking lots and the exterior of the building.
- Provide appropriate lighting for walkways.
- Provide lighting that is easy to maintain and secure against vandalism.

#### Traffic Flow

- Separate bus and parent pickup areas.
- Car, bus, and service vehicle traffic should be separated.
- Consider access by fire department emergency vehicles when planning site circulation.
- Provide drive-up access for large items in areas such as food service and janitorial/maintenance.
- Provide a drop-off for special education buses/vans.
- Provide sufficient length in the drop-off area for bus stacking.



▶ Winfield School Addition, FGM Architects, Winfield, IL

#### Regular Parking

- Visitor
- Staff
- Student

#### Event Parking

Event parking is not an everyday occurrence. Some parking will be accommodated in regular lots. Other parking might be on paved play areas, fields or roads.

- Adequate and separate parking facilities should be provided for visitors, staff, and kindergarten parents.
- Comply with regulations for handicapped access.
- Provide bicycle racks.
- Provide security cameras.

#### Landscaping

Create landscaped areas that are sustainable using natural rainfall and minimize use of an irrigation system where possible.

- Provide low-maintenance landscaping plantings.
- Consider outdoor spaces as an extension of the classroom and opportunities for exploration and education.
- Outdoor spaces should be student-friendly with places to rest and read, and trees for shade.
- Benches around trees can encourage students to stay outdoors.
- Sufficient green space should be provided.

#### Playing Fields

- Baseball field
- All-weather track (if possible)
- Football/soccer field
- Band practice area (high school only)
- Storage for outdoor athletic equipment
- Fencing where appropriate
- Irrigation and lighting
- Drinking fountains



▶ Mason High School, VSWC Architects, Mason, OH