

# 2013 Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture



## Orchard Place Elementary School Addition & Renovations

Des Plaines, IL

Recreating a School . . .  
Creating a Community Beacon



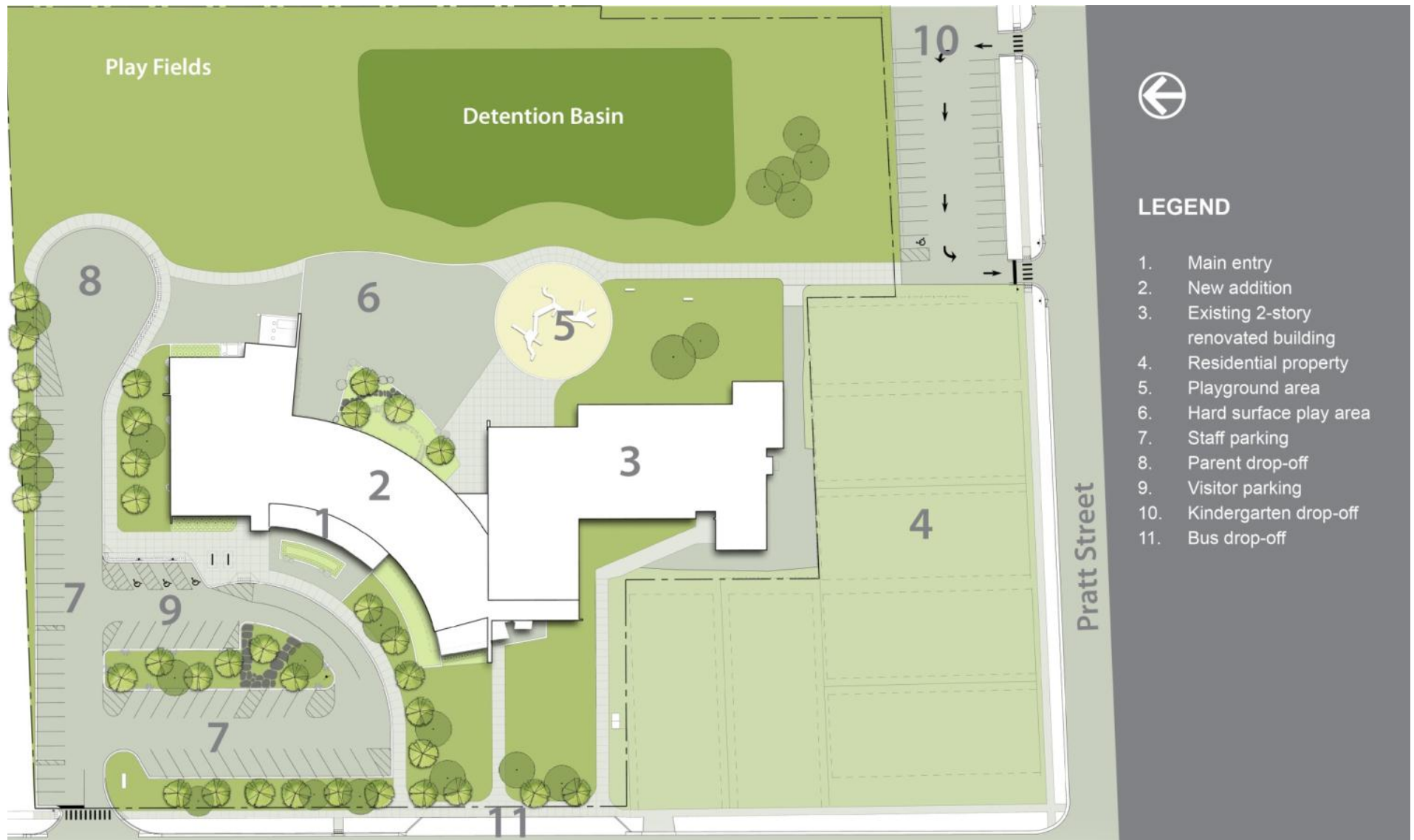
**BEFORE**

Alternate before view of the main entrance  
of the original 1947 building.



View of the new gymnasium/two-story classroom addition.

# Orchard Place Elementary School Addition & Renovations



# Orchard Place Elementary School Addition & Renovations



---

**[top] View of existing main entrance. The building image does little to express the prominence and importance of the school in its neighborhood location.**

**[below] Detail view under main entry canopy of the two-story addition.**

---

#### **Community Environment:**

*This revitalized institution is a source of community pride and is utilized on a 24/7 basis. The refreshed building image, through its extensive use of use of glazing, conveys a sense of accessibility and welcomes interested community members to experience ways in which students learn in the new millennium. Community group usage, in turn, demonstrates to students that education is a life-long pursuit.*

*Additionally, play fields and playground equipment were either expanded or maintained in the final design solution as recreational facilities are at a premium in the community.*



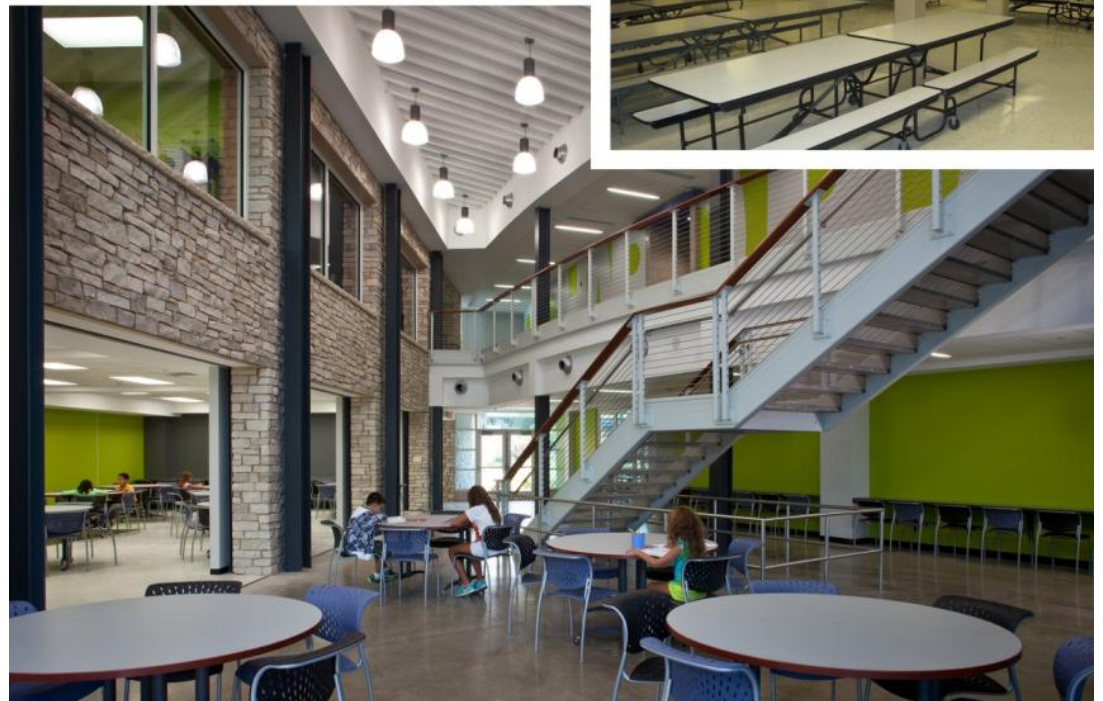
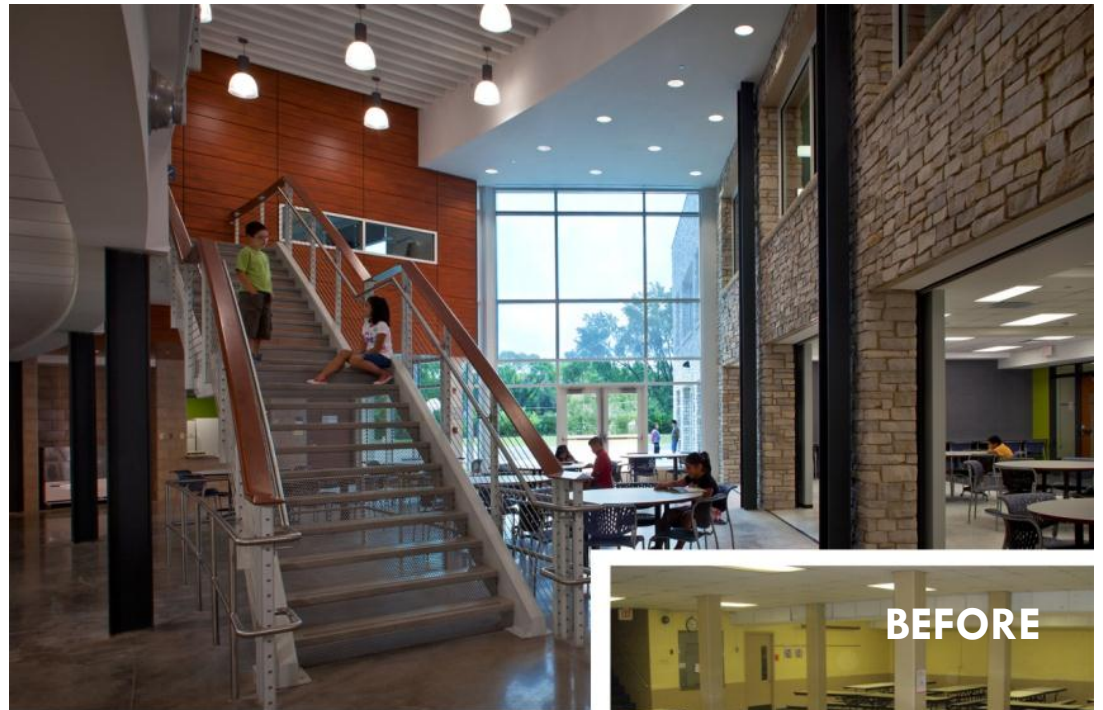
---

**The cafeteria/student commons in the new addition serves as a connecting link between the renovated and new construction areas of the facility. Besides accommodating students during the lunch hour, instruction activities occur before, during, and after the school day.**

---

**Community Environment:**

*Inside, the color and material finish palettes were chosen and implemented to provide a consistent look and feel between the new and renovated spaces. The cafeteria/student commons area exemplifies this interface as it straddles the new and renovated sides of the building and has become the main hub of the school. Other social zones and small breakout areas are scattered throughout the facility to support the spontaneous, dynamic activities happening all day long.*





---

## Technology Integrated Learning Environments

[T.I.L.E.s]

---

### Learning Environment:

*T.I.L.E.s are meant to serve as “living laboratories” where students and teachers can experiment with different technologies, furniture options, and teaching approaches before making them District-wide as funds become available.*

*A major aspect of curriculum improvements integrated at other renovated facilities in the District was the incorporation of T.I.L.E.s. Specific to this elementary school, the new T.I.L.E. is centrally located between the main entrance lobby and commons area for ease of access before, during and after school hours.*

*It is equipped with SMART Boards, computer tablets, floor-to-ceiling marker boards, and tackable wall surfaces. All of the furniture is varied and mobile. Students can sit on beanbag chairs or motion-friendly, ergonomically correct chairs, which have been shown to improve cognitive engagement. Staff training seminars and community group meetings can also be accommodated.*



---

**[top] View at the end of the second floor corridor which overlooks the new gymnasium.**

**[below] Break-out spaces for social and instructional purpose occur throughout the facility. Here students are using an extended type space just outside the gymnasium.**

---

**Learning Environment:**

*Strategically placed collaboration zones and informal, meeting nooks populate the facility and invite spontaneous, social engagement between students and staff. They also serve as a reminder that learning can and does take place beyond the boundaries of a formal classroom setting.*





---

[top] **Detail view of the west façade clearly shows the interplay of the three main building materials (composite rain screen, stone, and precast concrete) used throughout the addition.**

[below] **Detail view of the east side of the two-story addition.**

---

#### **Physical Environment:**

*From the outside, the entire building appears to be a completely new facility. The second floor rain screen façade, in combination with alternating precast concrete panels and stone veneer walls, projects a refined contemporary appearance.*

*An abundance of glazing around the addition is used to maximize the amount of daylight that penetrates into the building. It also serves to increase visibility in and around the building, ultimately conveying an appropriate sense of controlled accessibility of this COMMUNITY BEACON to the public.*





---

[top] **View from the second floor stairway leading to the cafeteria/ student commons.**

[below] **Second floor corridor in the new addition. The curve of the hallway provides an unexpected solution compared to a traditional double-loaded corridor found in most elementary schools.**

---

#### **Physical Environment:**

*The scale and proportion of the new addition mirrors that of the neighboring houses. The use of exterior materials is consistent with other facilities throughout the District but interpreted differently to create an off-street, refreshingly-contemporary presence in its mature, residential setting. The texture and color of the new materials complement the existing building. All interior spaces received consistent finish upgrades. In addition, the location and size of new drop-off lanes help create a safer site for students, maximize play field dimensions, and minimize the impact of increased traffic in the neighborhood.*



---

**[top] View of a typical classroom in the original 1947 building. Narrow corridors necessitated placing cubbies/coat hooks inside the classroom further reducing square feet.**

**[below] View of a typical classroom in the two-story addition. Floor-to-ceiling tackable surfaces as well as built-in casework and seat/storage units optimize the square footage.**

---

#### **Planning Process:**

*An extensive community engagement process to develop support, solicit program input and uncover unforeseen opportunities for the District was conducted over a two year period. A series of design charrettes, open houses and community forums provided the design team with constituent input and allowed the district to ensure available funding resources were used for the greatest impact.*

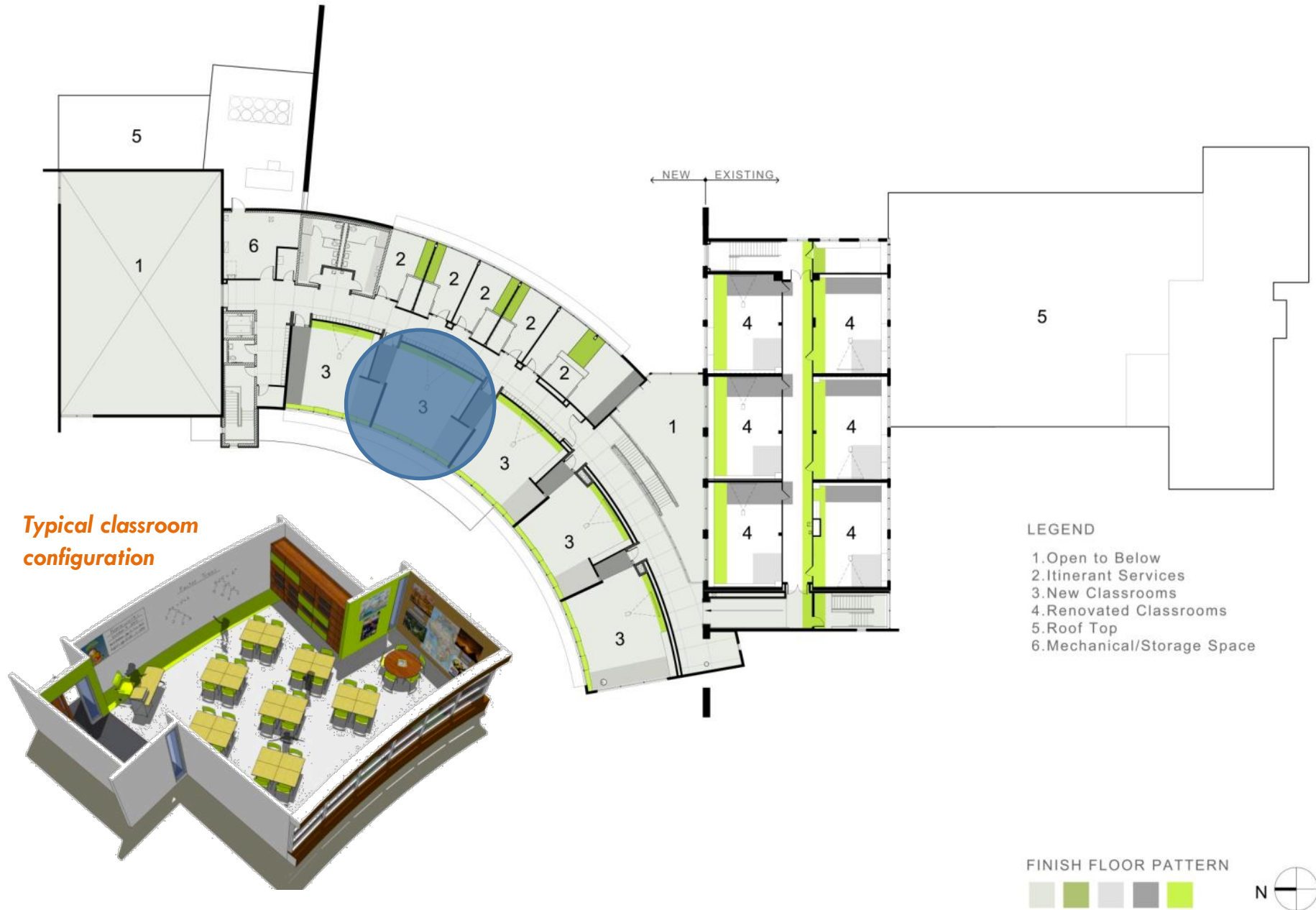




# First floor plan



# Second floor plan





<b>Submitting Firm:</b>	<b>Wight &amp; Company</b>
Project Role	Architect
Project Contact	Craig Siepka, AIA, LEED AP
Title	PK-12 Design Leader
Address	2500 North Frontage Road
City, State or Province, Country	Darien, Illinois USA
Phone	630-969-7000

<b>Other Firm:</b>	<b>Wight &amp; Company</b>
Project Role	Structural Engineering
Project Contact	Matt Aquino, PE, SE
Title	Director, Structural Engineering
Address	2500 North Frontage Road
City, State or Province, Country	Darien, Illinois USA
Phone	630-969-7000

<b>Joint Partner Firm:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Project Role	
Project Contact	
Title	
Address	
City, State or Province, Country	
Phone	

<b>Construction Firm:</b>	<b>Wight Construction</b>
Project Role	Construction Manager
Project Contact	Josh Warriner, DBIA, LEED AP BD+C
Title	Senior Project Manager, Construction
Address	2500 North Frontage Road
City, State or Province, Country	Darien, Illinois USA
Phone	630-969-7000

<b>Other Firm:</b>	<b>Wight &amp; Company</b>
Project Role	Civil/Landscaping Engineering
Project Contact	Byron Wyns
Title	Director, Land Development
Address	2500 North Frontage Road
City, State or Province, Country	Darien, Illinois USA
Phone	630-969-7000

<b>Other Firm:</b>	<b>Wight &amp; Company</b>
Project Role	MEP Engineering
Project Contact	Sudesh Saraf, PE, LEED AP
Title	Director, MEP Engineering
Address	2500 North Frontage Road
City, State or Province, Country	Darien, Illinois USA
Phone	630-969-7000

# Exhibition of School Planning & Architecture Project Data

<b>Project Name</b>	Orchard Place Elementary School Addition & Renovations
<b>City</b>	Des Plaines
<b>State</b>	Illinois
<b>District Name</b>	Des Plaines Community Consolidated School District 62
<b>Supt/President</b>	Dr. Jane L. Westerhold
<b>Occupancy Date</b>	August 2012
<b>Grades Housed</b>	Kindergarten – 5 <sup>th</sup> grade
<b>Capacity(Students)</b>	350 students
<b>Site Size (acres)</b>	5.8 acres
<b>Gross Area (sq. ft.)</b>	Renovation: 23,000 SF; Addition: 28,000 SF
<b>Per Occupant(pupil)</b>	146 SF/student
<b>gross/net please indicate</b>	Gross
<b>Design and Build?</b>	Yes
<b>If yes, Total Cost:</b>	\$12,700,000
<b>Includes:</b>	Site development, building construction, fixed equipment, technology, professional services fees
<b>If no,</b>	
<b>Site Development:</b>	
<b>Building Construction:</b>	
<b>Fixed Equipment:</b>	
<b>Other:</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	

# Exhibition of School Planning & Architecture Project Details



View of existing playground showing hard/soft surface play areas before construction.

**BEFORE**



View of the two-story addition as seen from the new playground. The hard surface play area and playground equipment are reconfigured close to the building to help maximize available playfields on the back-half of the site.

The school looks nice when it was finished. There was a wider cafeteria and gym. There [were] new classrooms, a new music classroom and the computer lab is cooler ... José, student

Orchard Place  
Elementary School



Name: José Luis Quintana



Draw a picture and write about the construction that took place in your school. What was it like? What is it like now?

The construction was a good way to do some exercise with friends.

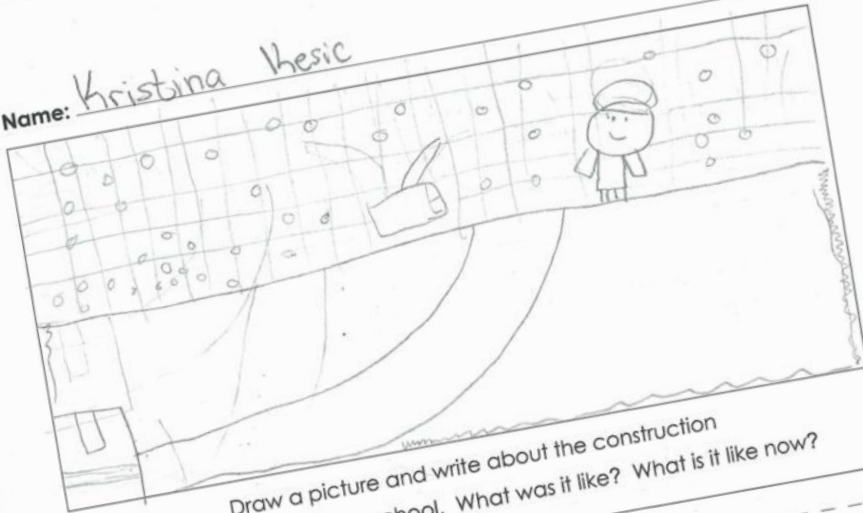
There was a fence around us. So if a object goes over the fence is over you lost it. And, sometimes there was smoke. The school looks nice when it was finished. There was a wider cafeteria and gym. There, new classrooms, a new music classroom and



Orchard Place  
Elementary School



Name: Kristina Hesic



Draw a picture and write about the construction  
that took place in your school. What was it like? What is it like now?

-During the construction, it  
wasn't fun because we didn't  
have a playground to play on.

-I think it was worth  
the construction because  
now the new school looks  
awesome! I like the new  
school better because  
of the colors and the new  
lunchroom. I love the  
new school and it was  
worth the construction.

**I think it was worth the construction because  
now the new school looks awesome! Kristina, student**



# learning in the new millennium

