

PreK-12 School Design

Strategies for Consideration to Mitigate Climate Change

STATE OF NEW MEXICO = PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY

Partnering with New Mexico's communities to provide quality, sustainable school facilities for our students and educators.

- Sustainable Materials
- Photovoltaic Systems (PV)
- High Performance Building Envelopes
- Renovating Existing Buildings vs. Replace







Sustainable Materials

- Specify materials with low VOCs, naturally derived, rapid growth materials
 - Durable materials that stand up to years of use
 - Specifying materials and equipment school staff know how to maintain and operate
 - Designing schools now that will be more prepared for renovation in the future
 - More flexible spaces for changes in use
 - Designing a building with sound structure for potential reuse



Photovoltaic Systems (PV)

- PV continues to become more affordable
- PV systems are becoming more reliable and lasting longer
- Producing on-site energy for school facilities
- Offsetting higher demand for electricity
- Create more resilience, especially for remote districts/ communities

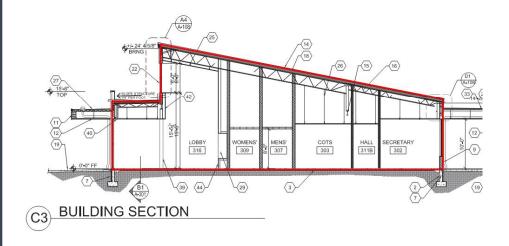


High Performing Building Envelopes

The building envelope creates physical protection from weather and climate

Higher performing envelopes can improve:

- Moisture Control
- Air Control
 - Ensure good indoor air quality, avoid condensation, provide comfort
 - Controlling airflow controls energy consumption
- Thermal Control
 - Good thermal control saves energy on heating and cooling



School Building Lifespan

According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), schools with a functional age of 15 to 34 years are more likely to report plans for major repairs, renovations, or replacements than newer schools. Some say that after 40 years, a school building begins to deteriorate rapidly, and most schools are abandoned after 60 years.

New Construction vs. Renovation

"The greenest building is the one that already exists." – Carl Elefante AIA President 2007

- Building replacement creates high energy consumption
- Existing buildings may be able to be renovated, using less materials and resources
- Instead of replacing facilities
 - Design with future renovations in mind
 - Proper operation and maintenance of facilities will extend their life
- Many older built NM school facilities may not be conducive to a renovation
 - Older methods/ poor construction
 - Spaces that can be used for modern educational delivery



Ryan Parks, AIA PSFA Deputy Director, Capital Operations rparks@nmpsfa.org

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