

Parkrose Middle School Portland, OR

The replacement middle school is designed to create a project-based learning environment, where learning occurs between the instructors and students as well as between students. The basic building block of the learning areas is a studio space configured in the shape of a capital letter "L" with each leg being of equal width, termed the "fat L." The shape accommodates the formation and functioning of small learning groups while providing a sense of separation. This perspective recognizes that nontraditional contemporary learning environments encourage students to fully participate in activities with others as they learn and actively help direct their knowledge acquisition.

Extending this spatial concept further, four studios are grouped together; including a science-focused space, around a shared flexible extended learning area that supports differentiated teaching practices and varied group learning. Paired with another identical group, each set of eight studios then shares a quiet break-out space and either a multipurpose studio for



long-term focused subject staging or a computer lab. The close proximity of these spaces to the media center also allows greater flexibility and individual responsibility with learning.

New Construction/Addition

Entire school/campus building

Dull Olson Weekes – IBI Group Architects, Inc.

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DESIGN TEAM

Todd Construction, General Contractor
 Heery International, Program Manager
 KPFF Consulting Engineers, Structural Engineer
 MFIA, Mechanical/Plumbing Engineer
 MLC, Electrical Engineer
 GHD, Civil Engineer

OWNER/CLIENT

Parkrose School District
 Portland, OR
 Dr. Karen Fischer Gray
 503/408-2135

KEY STATS

Grades Served: 6–8
 Capacity: 1,000 students
 Size of Site: 16.9 acres
 Building Area: 140,000 sq. ft.
 Space per Student: 140 sq. ft.
 Cost per Student: \$33,300
 Square Foot Cost: \$238
 Construction Cost: \$33,300,000
 Project Cost: \$43,000,000
 Completion Date: September 2014
 Sustainability Rating System/Applied/Status/Level:
 LEED Gold Certified

PHOTOGRAPHY: JOSH PARTEE PHOTOGRAPHY