

Berkley Street School

Primary Service: Architecture
Type: Educational
Owner/Client: New Milford Board of Education
Location: New Milford, New Jersey
Cost: \$2,500,000
Square Footage: 31,500 sf
Completion Date: 2007
Contact: Ms. Elaine Baldwin
Superintendent
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Project Manager: Michael McGovern, AIA, LEED® AP
Project Number: 2.2444.5

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An exterior view of the new addition.



A view of the new media center conversion.



An interior view of the new media center.

Project Scope:

The development of a new 2,900 sf Media Center for the Berkley Street Elementary School represents one facet of the 31,000 sf expansion project. The design was developed to provide classroom space for a relocated 5th grade classroom and to upgrade supplemental spaces, including the gymnasium. The Gymnasium and Media Center were considered undersized for the student population. LAN suggested redeveloping the existing Gymnasium as a Media Center.

From the start of schematic planning, it was an essential program element to create a whimsical and motivational learning environment within the new Media Center. Design of the computer room and Media Center as integral spaces was required. The solution was successful, resulting in an environment with individual structures inside the gymnasium, similar to a community park setting. The librarian's office was fashioned after a gazebo with support spaces behind. An open gazebo was constructed at the opposite end of the space as a student-reading nook. A free-floating ceiling was constructed below the upper building structure with sidewalls painted dark blue in an effort to visually expand the space. Carpet patterns mimic shapes seen in each room structure. A large window wall in the original gymnasium provides courtyard views from the story nook gazebo. Access to an adjacent computer room is provided. From the exterior of the building, the Media Center renovations are undetectable.

Services Performed:

- Boundary, Topographic and Utility Surveys
- Geotechnical Investigations
- Architectural Design & Documentation
- Structural, Mechanical & Electrical Engineering
- Cost Estimating
- Construction Administration & Observation
- Preparation of E.O. #215 Reports

Program Highlights:

- 31,000 sf Expansion
- 2,900 sf New Media Center Conversion
- Electrical & HVAC Upgrades