# TRIAD Architects

Pointview Elementary School ///

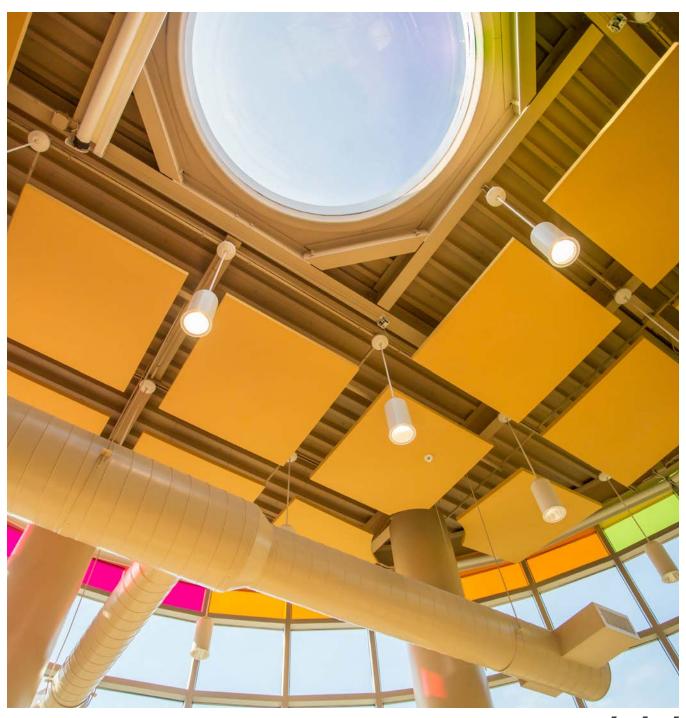
# **LEsolutions Award**





Shown above is the Glass Corridor.

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Executive summary.

### **Executive summary.**



#### Westerville City Schools Pointview Elementary School

WESTERVILLE, OH

Pointview Elementary was originally constructed according to the "open classroom" movement of the '60 and '70s. Movable walls provided little sound isolation and were difficult to operate, lack of windows and misguided ventilation made the rooms gloomy and uncomfortable. We gutted the interior, put the media center in the physical center of the building and placed classrooms around the edge. This way, students of different ages interact in the wide open media center, and the classrooms provide natural light as well as sound isolation.

The design was largely inspired by engagement sessions with students and staff. Pointview serves a diverse population and students wanted everyone to feel welcome, so the door to the school office says "Welcome" in over a dozen languages. The school adopted a "lighthouse" theme, as they are a beacon for learning. The lighthouse feature in the media center anchors the supervisor's desk, and the floor is a literal ocean, complete with turtles, mermaids and even a sea monster.

The theme continues through "Emma's Glass Roof" (a hallway with a glass roof suggested by a student named Emma) into a new classroom wing that terminates in a circular art room. The nearly 360° floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the playground have blinds that are remote-controlled, as does the opening in the ceiling that allows the room to double as a functional sundial!





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Scope of work and budget.

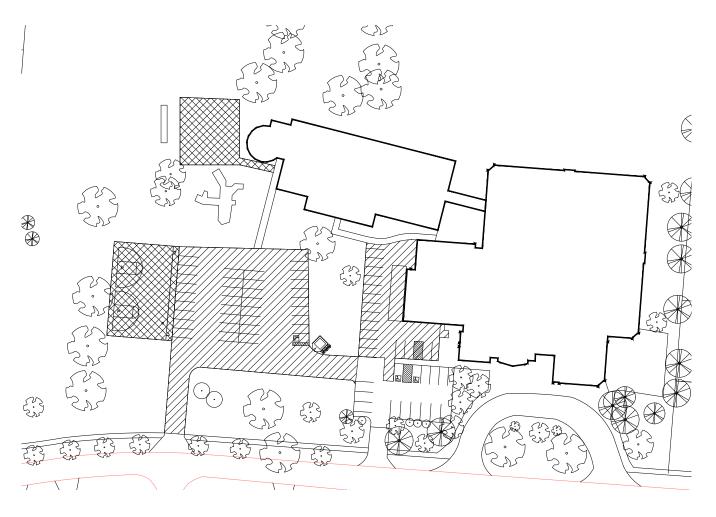
### Scope of work and budget.

Project Completion /// 2015

Construction Cost /// \$5.9 million

Services /// Client engagement, planning, programming, architecture, interior design

Client Contact /// Jeff LeRose, Director of Capital Improvements /// 614.797.5700



Shown above is a site plan.

3 ///

School and community engagement.

### School and community engagement.

#### **Describe the Community.**

Westerville City Schools is a diverse socioeconomic district. Pointview Elementary at the time of the design had over 50% free and reduced lunch population of students.

#### Identify stakeholders.

Students, staff, and community (tax payers).

#### Name challenges.

- 1. Increasing existing small classroom size to current recommended classroom size.
- 2. Expanding classrooms on a tight site with some poor soil conditions.
- 3. Constructing and renovating existing building while students still occupied the site and existing building.

#### Describe available assets.

Appropriate sized classrooms, individual art and music rooms, numerous break-out areas for project-based learning, and the expanded student dining and media center.

# Describe the value of process and project to community at large.

The design team utilized collaborative design process that involved students, staff, and community. It was clear that all stakeholders desired inspirational design (places where students and staff wanted to be). Budget and schedule were tight but very important to maintain. Construction was to happen while school was in session and could not disrupt ongoing learning.



Shown above is the exterior view of art room.

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Educational environment.

#### **Educational environment.**

#### Explain the educational vision and goals of the school.

Project-based learning focusing on developing leadership qualities.

### Describe & illustrate how the environment supports the curriculum.

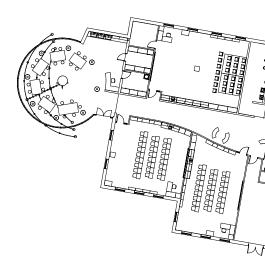
The existing building was an open concept building with minimal exterior windows with small classroom sizes. The new design provided lots of exterior lighting through newly installed windows, expanded classroom size with numerous adjacent, flexible breakout spaces for project-based learning.

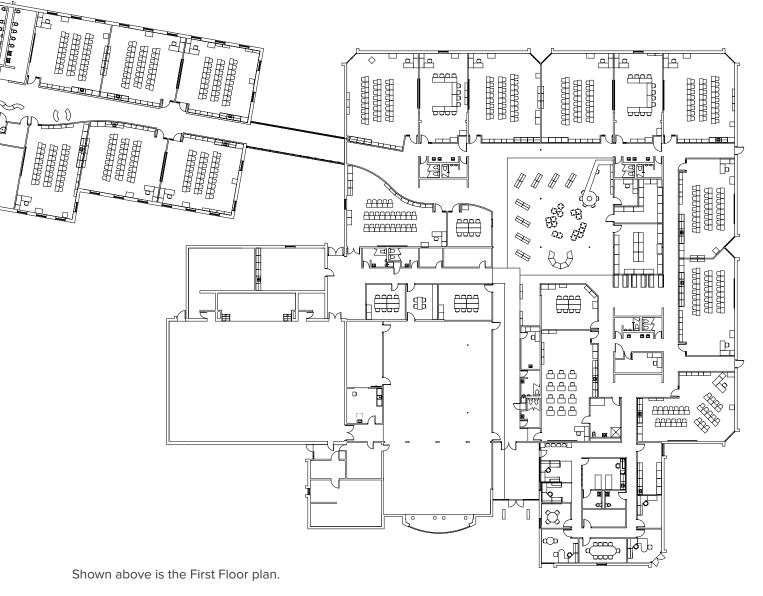
## Describe & illustrate how the environment supports a variety of learning & teaching styles.

We developed outdoor learning areas, numerous breakout areas for project-based learning, and developed individual art and music rooms and expanded media center.

## Describe & illustrate how the environment is adaptable and flexible.

The media center and student dining corridors have been developed with flexible areas that are utilized as break out spaces.





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Physical environment.

### Physical environment.

### Describe & illustrate the physical attributes of the environment.

The new windows were established to bring in natural light. We developed partially sheltered outdoor learning areas with tiered amphitheater-like seating and increased size of existing classrooms. We also increased the size of the student dining area as well as the media center and expanded music and art rooms.

# Describe & illustrate how the facility fits within the larger context of the community.

Pointview Elementary Schools houses students of many different cultures from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds throughout the community.

# Describe & illustrate how the environment supports a variety of learning & teaching styles.

We developed outdoor learning areas, numerous breakout areas for project-based learning, and developed individual art and music rooms and expanded media center.

### Describe & illustrate how the project inspires and motivates.

The entry way to the school has a welcome wall with "Hello" written in 50+ languages that are students speak throughout the school and community. There is a magnetic world map in the main corridor where students can mark where their families are from. The media center which is also known as the "Exploration Station" has monitor walls that show live feeds from news, safaris, space exploration and other inspirational opportunities. We wanted to create a space where students from different backgrounds feel welcome and eager to learn.



Shown above is the entry way.

6 ///

Results of the process and project.

### Results of the process and project.

# Explain how the project achieves educational goals and objectives.

Pointview Elementary School has become a school of destination where in the past, many students tried to opt out of attending. After the construction was complete, it became a choice destination for students in the community. The classroom environment is bright with vibrant colors and natural daylight that were desired by both students and staff.

#### Explain how the project achieves school district goals.

This project provided appropriately sized learning areas that are inspirational places where students and staff want to be. The project was on time and under budget.

#### Explain how the project achieves community goals.

This project developed a welcoming atmosphere for a diverse community. Updated facilities for project-based learning were created to inspire learning. The project was on time and under budget.

# Explain any unintended results and achievements of the process & project.

Prior to design and production, students often opted out and wanted to go to other schools and once completed, Pointview became a school of destination.



Shown above is the Library View.



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