

West Ridge Elementary School

6700 N. Whipple Street



Building Features

- Steel Frame and Masonry Construction
- 105,000 Square Feet
- 3-story Facility
- Capacity: Min. 900 Students
- 6 Pre-K/Kindergarten Classrooms
- 24 Standard Academic Classrooms
- 2 Multipurpose Rooms
- 1 Computer Lab
- 1 Science Lab
- 1 Music Classroom
- 1 Art Classroom
- Gymnasium and Stage
- Kitchen and Dining Facilities
- Library/Media Resource Center
- Administrative Suite
- Nurse and Student Support Service
- State-of-the-art Computer Network
- Central Air Conditioning
- Fully Commissioned Building Automation System
- Fully Accessible to People With Disabilities

Special Provisions

- Designed for **Community Use** on evenings and weekends-with independent access to gym, dining room and other specialty spaces.

Exterior Amenities

- Play Area
- Playground Equipment
- Parking Lot
- Green and Reflective Roof

Project Development Information

- Design Architect: SMNG-A Architects
- Architect of Record: Muller & Muller Architects
- General Contractor: Sollitt/Oakley JV
- Original Contract Value:\$23,343,000

Economic Sustainability Program

- Bid incentives for the employment of Women and Minorities
- Bid incentives for the employment of Apprentices
- City Residency Labor Requirement
- Community Hiring Requirement
- M/WBE Business Commitment: 31.73%

WEST RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY OR "GREEN" ELEMENTS



The new West Ridge Elementary School was designed to achieve a Silver rating under the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) for Schools Rating System. Green buildings are designed, constructed and maintained in an environmentally sustainable way. Some of the green elements that are part of this elementary school are outlined below.

Sustainable Sites

These features take into account the location and placement of the building, and its impact on and relationship with the environment around it.

- The building was constructed on a previously developed site, and within ½ mile of a residential zone and 10 basic services (neighborhood amenities).
- The school is well served by public transportation, as it is located within ¼ mile of one CTA bus line, and less than 1/3 mile from another.
- Alternative transportation is encouraged through the addition of bike racks, preferred parking for low-emitting and fuel efficient vehicles and carpool vehicles and a designated carpool drop-off.
- Both the roof and selected site materials have a high degree of reflectivity, which contribute less to the urban heat island effect on and around the building. Lower summer temperatures around the building translate into less energy required to cool it.
- Over 50% of the roof surface is vegetated (green), with a continuous green roof visible from the library.
- Native and adaptive landscape, green roof, rainwater infiltration trenches, rain gardens and grass-pavement, as well as a rainwater capture system for garden irrigation, help manage stormwater and return rainwater to the water cycle.
- Lighting was designed to prevent light from spilling over to the school's neighbors, or to the sky above.

Water Efficiency

Efforts were made to conserve water in and around the building.

- Landscape plantings include adaptive and native species, which require less water. Irrigation is provided only during plant establishment. Rainwater captured from the roof is stored in above-ground cisterns to water educational gardens.
- Low flow plumbing fixtures and sensed sinks reduce building water usage by close to 42%.

Energy & Atmosphere

Green buildings reduce the amount of energy used by the building, and may make use of renewable energy.

- Energy-using systems are designed to perform at least 21% better than facilities of similar size and use.
- The efficient lighting systems utilize occupancy sensors and available daylight.
- Enhanced commissioning of the building's energy-using systems will ensure they are installed and perform as designed, and that the operations and maintenance staff are well trained.

Materials & Resources

Materials selection is mindful of recycled content, and regional manufacturing, to reduce use of energy to bring the materials to the site and to reduce raw material consumption.

- Over 92% of waste from construction was recycled.
- This school contains close to 29% recycled materials.
- Close to 54% of the materials used for this building were manufactured within 500 miles of the project site.
- Approximately 75% of the wood used in this building came from sustainably managed forests certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

Indoor Environmental Quality

Green buildings are designed to establish good indoor air quality for workers during construction and for the end users of the completed building. Environmental quality in terms of access to daylight and views are also considered.

- This building provides excellent indoor environmental quality for students, faculty and staff.
- Care was taken to ensure contaminants were kept out of the building during construction, with an air quality plan, and through the selection of materials that emit less fumes. A full building flush-out was performed at the end of construction.
- Ongoing air quality is maintained through ventilation and entryway design, and the use of green cleaning products.
- The school was designed to provide daylight to more than 90% of the classroom areas and outdoor views from over 91% of learning and work areas. Library windows provide excellent daylight and west windows overlook a green roof.

