

Irene C. Hernández Middle School for the Advancement of the Sciences

3510 W. 55th Street



Building Features

- 126,748 Square Feet
- 3-story Steel Frame and Masonry Construction
- 6th through 8th Grade
- Capacity:
 - Planned Capacity: 1110
- 37 Standard Academic Classrooms
- 2 Multipurpose Rooms
- 2 Computer Labs
- 5 Science Labs
- 1 Music Classroom
- 1 Art Classroom
- Gymnasium and Stage
- Kitchen and Dining Facilities
- Library/Media Resource Center
- Administrative Suite
- Nurse and Student Support Services
- State-of-the-art Computer Network
- Fully Accessible to People with Disabilities
- Central Air Conditioning
- Fully Commissioned Building Automation System

Exterior Amenities

- 33-Space Parking Lot
- Ornamental Metal Fencing
- Learning Garden
- Extensive Landscaping
- Drop Off Lane

Project Development Information

- Design Architect: SMNG-A
- Architect of Record: Guajardo REC Architects LLC
- General Contractor: F.H. Pachen/SN Nielsen
- Original Contract Value: \$29,390,000.00

Economic Sustainability Program

- MBE Business Commitment: 24.06%
- WBE Business Commitment: 4%
- City Residency Labor Requirements: 50% of Project Labor

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY OR “GREEN” ELEMENTS



The new Irene C. Hernandez Middle School for the Advancement of the Sciences 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 middle 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 over 10 basic services (neighborhood amenities).
- The school is well served by public transportation, as it is located within ¼ mile of a bus line and a CTA train station.
- Alternative transportation is encouraged through the addition of bike racks, preferred parking for low-emission and fuel-efficient vehicles and carpool vehicles, and a designated carpool drop off.
- Both the roof and the 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 25% of the roof is vegetated.

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 for plant establishment.
- High efficiency plumbing fixtures will reduce building water usage by over 30%.

Energy & Atmosphere

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

- Energy-using systems were designed to perform 34% better than typical 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 90% of the waste generated during construction has been recycled
- This school contains at least 39% recycled materials.
- More than 80% of the materials used for this building were manufactured within 500 miles of the project site.
- Approximately 100% 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 ensure 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 will be maintained through the use of green cleaning products.
- The school was designed to provide natural light and views to the classrooms.
- Green cleaning products will ensure that the excellent air quality is maintained.

