

Association for Learning Environments

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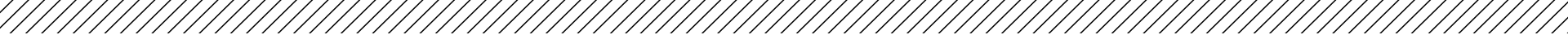
Sunfield Elementary School: A shining example of a modern learning environment within a compact design

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Mike Hall, Bartlett Cocke Jason Andrus

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Course Description

Sunfield Elementary School is a testament to what can be achieved through dedication, creativity and collaboration. Despite the challenges of an accelerated timeline and a global pandemic, Hays CISD, Bartlett Cocke, and Huckabee successfully delivered a world-class elementary school. Serving as the district's next generation prototype, Sunfield Elementary School sets a new standard for elementary schools, providing an exceptional well-rounded education for students while prioritizing economy of scale and affordability.

The school's compact building plan centers around a two-story high library space, which serves as the heart of the school. Classroom wings surround the library, allowing for easy access and promoting collaboration. The library's learning stair offers a versatile space for presentations, performances and group projects. Flexible instructional spaces are strategically located between grade-level wings, encouraging interdisciplinary learning and creativity. Additionally, splayed corridors were designed to accommodate small group learning and impromptu discussions.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the project faced unexpected challenges, including material shortages and supply chain disruptions. However, Huckabee, Bartlett Cocke, and HCISD worked together to find creative solutions, adapting the design to ensure the project's success. By value-engineering various components and materials, the team stayed within budget while preserving the school's core vision.

Learning Objectives

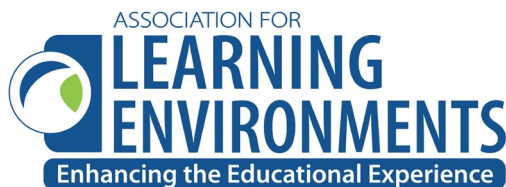
At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Learn how the team adapted their process to work with an accelerated timeline.
2. Learn how the team adapted to working on a project through COVID-19. Understand the solutions used to overcome material shortages and supply chain disruptions.
3. Learn how the team adapted this prototype design to fit the safety and security needs of the district.
4. Understand how the team worked with staff and students from the district to design their spaces.

This concludes The American Institute of Architects
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