

2013 CEFPI Utah
Educational Facility
Innovation Award

**Mountain View Community
Learning Center**



Salt Lake City School District
Mountain View Community Learning Center
Experience / Blended Learning Environment
Michael Williams

Narrative - Why this project is outstanding, and how it fosters exceptional student and teacher engagement (page 1)

- Nestled adjacent to the existing neighborhood elementary school, this remarkable facility provides a unique program to serve the local community. Part school, part health clinic, part adult education facility, the aim of Mountain View Community Learning Center is to address the holistic needs of its constituents.
- The center is divided into two interdependent blocks. The north provides five kindergarten classrooms, four early learning/pre-K classrooms with observation rooms, a collaborative core, and administrative space. The south block includes a fully functioning health clinic, (with five exam rooms), optometry and dentistry services, a counseling center. Also in the south portion of the building are two large classrooms and a large divisible multi-purpose room that can be used for anything from zumba to nutrition and cooking classes for the large immigrant population in the area. Both blocks focus on teaching English in an area where English is often not spoken in the home. Three separate and securable entrances allow the childhood learning, adult education, and health services to be accessed on a stand-alone basis.

Narrative - Why this project is outstanding, and how it fosters exceptional student and teacher engagement (page 2)

- The Community Learning center is not only an expansion of the elementary school but also as a hub for the local neighborhood. Its in-depth and complex program was developed by a partnership between six unique stakeholders including Salt Lake City School District, Intermountain Healthcare and the University of Utah.

Playful and inspiring quotations dot the glazing, both interior and exterior, and colorful walls contribute to wayfinding.

A rooftop solar array, daylighting to all occupied spaces, water harvesting and the use of locally sourced materials such as trestle wood contribute to a healthier world, and are used as teaching tools. Lighting throughout the building is completely LED and controlled with sensors. Water from the rooftop is visibly channeled into a cistern and used to water the adjacent community garden.

Narrative – Planning process, stakeholders and goals (page 1)

The planning process took place over a period of a year, and included meetings with the local community, the administration and staff at Mountain View Elementary, multiple School District curriculum experts and teachers, a local healthcare provider, volunteer eye doctors and dentists, and the District Community Development Director, who orchestrated the project from conception to conclusion. These stakeholders were represented in the planning process in order to outline the goals.

Basically, the goals were defined as follows:

1. Create a space to house the Kindergartners from the adjacent elementary, allowing the District to remove the portable classrooms.
2. Develop Early Childhood classrooms in conjunction with the University of Utah School of Education to study methods of teaching, as well as educating the next generation of teachers.
3. Because many of the parents want to volunteer or be involved in their children's education, the idea of a "Parent's Lounge" was conceived; a place to meet and exchange information, as well as a place for resources to be located.
4. Design a space for a health care provider to provide free health care to the community. This grew from four exam rooms to five, one dedicated to prenatal care, plus reception, office and lab support spaces. Additionally, provide exam rooms for two dental chairs and an optometry exam room.

Narrative – Planning process, stakeholders and goals (page 2)

Goals, continued:

5. Another partner in the program staffs a center to assist constituents with their needs in terms of counseling. This includes counselors' offices and reception and support spaces.
6. The adult education program needed to be ultimately flexible, accommodating typical adult ed classes in computer use, ESL, exercise, art, etc. A program twist was the need for a demonstration and learning kitchen facility to allow the immigrant community to learn how to use American ingredients and appliances, including clothes washers and dryers.
7. The building should be welcoming, and create self esteem in its users. The community should be given a facility they will be proud of.
8. The project should be sustainable and respectful of our limited resources.
9. The budget was relatively tight and thus the building had to be designed economically, but at the same time, the user, as a lifetime owner, wanted quality and durability as major goals.
10. Wayfinding had to be easy, and the three distinct areas had to be securable from each other for safety reasons.

Narrative – How the completed project accomplished desired methodology and goals (page 1)

The building has multiple uses and entries but the design goal was to avoid fragmenting the mass. Three leaning canopies were created, clad in bright red metal shingles as portal entries, trimmed out and highlighted by large Alaskan cedar window systems and a warm trestle wood soffit that creates a dramatic yet inviting front facade.

Having just opened, the users are still experimenting with ways to use the building to best achieve their goals. Basically, the goals were met as follows:

- Five Kindergarten rooms and four early childhood rooms were created in the north block of the building, close to the elementary. The pre-K classrooms all have observation rooms with one-way glazing, facilitating use of the rooms for teacher training. These rooms are larger than typical early childhood rooms, and were designed to provide new opportunities for the students and the instructors. A fun play area is located south of the learning area, including outdoor storage to park tricycles and the like. Support spaces such as a Parents' Lounge are a new amenity, allowing the parents a place to exchange ideas and learn from each other.
- The health clinic is the central piece of the block, and was designed to meet health care providers needs, as well as welcoming the community into a place where all health care issues can be addressed.

Narrative – How the completed project accomplished desired methodology and goals (page 2)

- The Adult Education block, located on the south side of the building, provides a separate securable entrance and multiple flexible meeting spaces. The two main learning areas are configurable in a multitude of ways to allow for varied programming.
- There was an intentional use of warm colors and wood materials, including reclaimed salt-impregnated wood at the entries, to create a façade that would be appealing and welcoming – friendly, not institutional.
- The materials selected have long life-cycles and many are locally sourced. The lighting is all LED, controlled by photocells and occupancy sensors. The mechanical system utilizes individual rooftop units with low returns, allowing energy savings from individual control of each room, based on demand. Further, the building was designed to utilize a full rooftop PV array. One half of the array has been funded by grants and is about to be installed. A 100 gallon cistern collects water from the rooftops from a highly visible outlet, which is available for irrigation of the community gardens nearby.
- The building was delivered on-budget.
- Three distinct entries allow users to decide where to enter; once inside the building, distinct colors create wayfinding icons for children and adults alike.



Mountain View Community Learning Center has three distinct entrances but the overall massing reads as one. The use of bright metal shingle panels on dramatic overhanging canopies directs the users where to go. The Alaskan cedar and trestle wood windows and soffits create a warm welcome.



A large volume of collaborative multi-activity space connecting all of the kindergarten classrooms together acts as a warm and dynamic collaborative space not just a corridor. The yellow picture frame and blue wall beyond beckon to early childhood students



Large glazing panels featuring inspiring quotations connect the classrooms to the exterior collaboration space. Tack strips at head height and above the tile wainscot provide space to display student work.



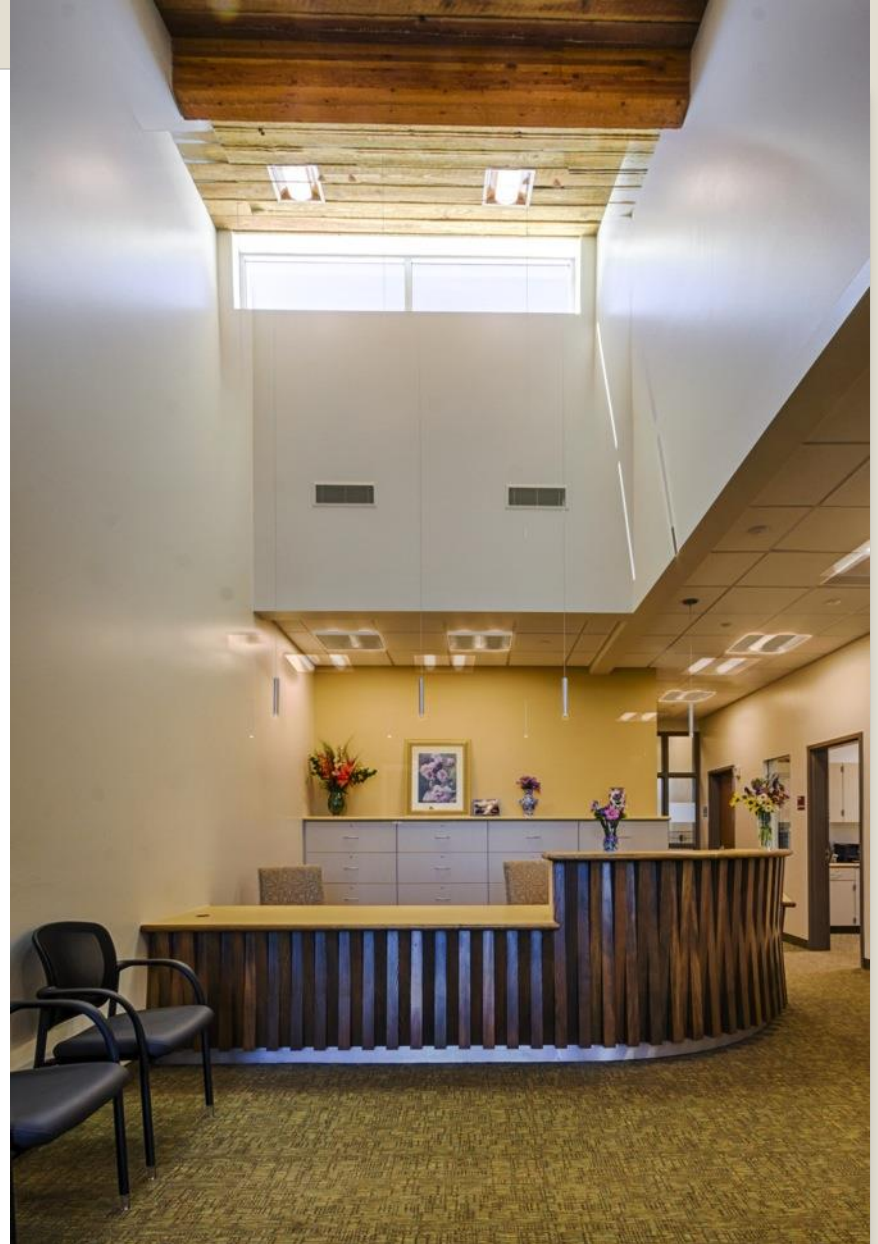
Large classrooms, all with natural light and interconnected transparency are brightly colored to create a fun learning environment with ample storage and space for multiple learning activities.



The parent lounge works as a resting place for parents who need a break from classes with kitchen facilities and a mothers room. It looks out over the courtyard and playground. The lounge also acts as a security buffer as the only link between the spaces with interlocking doors to protect the children.



Main Health and Wellness lobby with Gallery



Counseling center reception



Optometry Exam Room



Dental Exam Room



Adult education multi-purpose room focuses on teaching adults learning English as a second language and learning to live in America. The space can be modified to teach a small group or a large Zumba class.



Adult education classrooms are flexible. Small groups can meet or the space can be opened up to host large events.



Enclosed playground and courtyard at the back of the center.



Rainwater collection for the community garden acts as a teaching tool for the kindergarten classes. They can look out when its raining to see the water being collected to feed the garden 50 feet away.

Community Garden

Mountain View
Elementary School

Early Childhood (Pre-K)
classrooms in conjunction
with the University of Utah
College of Education

Parents Lounge looking out
onto playground and
courtyard with interlocking
doors as a security buffer
between spaces

Outdoor enclosed
playground

Dental exam rooms

Adult education classrooms
and flexible meeting space

Optometrists exam room
in conjunction with
Friends for Sight

Adult education
multi-purpose space
including classrooms and
seven fully functioning
cooking learning spaces

Rainwater collection
for community garden

Kindergarten block
- five classrooms
serving SLCS
Mt. View Elementary

Early learning center
entrance

Early learning center
reception and
administrative block

Counseling center in
conjunction with
Valley mental Health

Health and Wellness
main entrance

Health clinic in
conjunction with
Intermountain
Healthcare

Community art gallery

Adult education
center entrance

Floor Plan

Mountain View Community Learning Center • Salt Lake City School District



Site Plan



Mountain View Community Learning Center • Salt Lake City School District

Project Details

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| 1. Project Name | Mountain View Community Learning Center | |
| 2. District Name | Salt Lake City School District | |
| 3. Award Category | Experience Based Learning Environment / Blended Learning Environment | |
| 4. Superintendent | Dr. McKell Withers | |
| 5. Contact Person | Name: Jeanne Jackson, FAIA | |
| | Email: jjackson@vcbo.com | |
| | Phone Number: 801-575-8800 | |
| 6. Type of Facility | Other: Experience Based Learning Environment, Blended Learning Environment Pre-K/K, Community Learning | |
| 7. Number of Students Impacted | 225 in early learning, Community Learning capacity is undetermined, due to variety of programs offered, and longer day availability | |
| 8. Project Size | 29,565 Square Feet | |
| 9. Occupancy Date | August 2013 | |
| 10. Design Professional | VCBO Architecture | |
| 11. General Contractor | Paulsen Construction | |

Print, Sign, Scan and Submit with Package

Name of Project: Mountain View Community Learning Center

Location of Project: 1388 South Navajo St. Salt Lake City, UT

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School District: Salt Lake City School District

Responsible Party/Photographer: VCBO Architecture

Print Name: Jeanne Jackson

Signature:



Date of Release: 11/14/13

**Photo Release: (Return *SIGNED* copy
with your submittal)**