



North Central Junior High School

North Liberty, Iowa

Neumann Monson Architects

“Green” School Building
New Construction

Neumann Monson Architects

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DESIGN TEAM

Kevin Monson,
Principal-in-Charge
Chris DeGroot,
Project Architect
Martha Norbeck,
Project Manager
Conlon Construction,
General Contractor

OWNER/CLIENT

Iowa City Community
School District
Iowa City, IA

Dr. Lane Plugge,
Superintendent
(319) 688-1000

Type of School and
Grades Served:
Junior High School, 7-8

Capacity: 450 students

Size of Site: 30 acres

Area of Building:
82,612 square feet

Volume of Building:
1.3 million cubic feet

Space per Student:
184 square feet

Cost per Student: \$18,359

Square Foot Cost: \$104

Construction Cost:
\$8.6 million

Total Project Cost:
\$10.6 million

Contract Date: December 2004

Completion Date: July 2006

Percent of Completion: 100%

The 82,000-square-foot building consists of two levels. The facility’s main entrance, grand staircase, and student commons are centrally located and organize the building between the two levels and between the east and west wings. The south façade of the building curves gently to mimic the sun’s passage in the sky and allows southern perimeter windows to admit maximum daylight throughout the day, while exterior sun-screens eliminate glare.

The building has been designed and built according to the U.S. Department of Energy’s high performance guidelines. Natural light is optimized, and indoor air quality is superior. The building is designed to reduce maintenance and operating costs, and uses materials whose environmental impact is minimal. A geothermal system heats and cools the building, so energy consumption and operating costs are pro-



MAIN ENTRANCE

jected to be dramatically lower than average.

Perimeter windows afford beautiful views of the natural surroundings while north-facing clerestory windows admit filtered, nonglaring daylight from above for second level classrooms. Artificial lights are on sensors and are activated automatically. Even on cloudy

days artificial light is not always necessary. The cafeteria and media center have large expanses of glass that overlook the adjacent creek and sloping terrain.

The facility was designed so that the infrastructure is in place to support the 12 additional classrooms that will be added in the future. ■



MEDIA CENTER



CLASSROOM

Photos: Farshid Assassi