



Magnet School
Renovation/Addition/
Restoration

**DU BOSE ASSOCIATES, INC.
ARCHITECTS**

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James Vance & Associates,
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DESIGN TEAM

Craig C. Saunders, Chairman,
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Ernest Nepamuceno Jr.,
Project Design

Robert Holmes, Associate,
Technical Support

John Mena,
Technical Support/Design
Diggs Construction, LLC,
Program Manager

C&R Development,
Construction Manager

OWNER/CLIENT

Noah Webster School
City of Hartford, CT
Dee Cole & Freeman Burr,
Principals, 860/695-5381

Type of School and Grades
Served: Elementary School,
Pre-K-8

Capacity: 750 students

Size of Site: 2.8 acres

Area of Building: 117,540 s.f.

Space per Student: 157 s.f.

Cost per Student: \$35,600

Square Foot Cost: \$235

Cost of Construction:
\$27.6 million

Total Project Cost: \$31.8 million

Contract Date: Sept. 2004

Completion Date: Sept. 2006

Percent of Completion: 100%

Noah Webster School

Hartford, Connecticut

Du Bose Associates, Inc. Architects



MAIN LOBBY/VILLAGE SQUARE



FRONT OF NEW ADDITION



LIBRARY READING ROOM

PHOTOGRAPHY: WOODRUFF/BROWN

Noah Webster School has been considered a neighborhood icon from the construction of its original main building in 1903. This gracefully scaled, Tudor/Craftsman style main building was joined on the site by the stand-alone, primary building in the Spanish Classical style in 1907, and finally by the Art Deco gym and classroom building in 1931.

The design team delicately inserted a new 42,000-square-foot three-level addition, which connects the original main building to the gym building on three levels with ramps spanning the 5-foot floor elevation change between these two structures. A new barrier-free entrance with an off-street bus drop-off was created on the east side of the facility.

Care was given to articulate the new main entrance, which renders a proportional replica of the delicate half-timber and stucco details of the original Cone Street entrance in con-

temporary glass and steel. New east and west elevations were carefully scaled and articulated to continue the existing streetscape massing and delicate relationship to the surrounding community.

The signature interior space, the Village Square, is a two-story lobby naturally illuminated

through the glass and steel entrance façade and a 22x24-foot skylight. Its purpose is to provide a central public space in which the entire school can gather for "Micro-Society" magnet theme related activities such as market days, town meetings, court procedures, and more. ■