



Green School Building  
New Construction

**KKE ARCHITECTS, INC.**

300 First Ave. N.  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
www.kke.com

Lee Meyer, AIA, LEED AP  
612/339-4200

**DESIGN TEAM**

Lee Meyer,  
Principal-in-Charge

Tom Gerster,  
Principal Architect

Mohammed Lawal,  
Design Coordinator

Matthew Streed,  
Design Coordinator

Rob Grundstrom,  
Lead Designer

Peter Kim, Job Captain

Deanne Erpelding,  
Interior Designer

Cara Erickson,  
Interior Design

**OWNER/CLIENT**

Belcourt School District 7  
Belcourt, ND

Dr. Viola LaFontaine,  
Superintendent  
701/477-6471

Type of School and  
Grades Served:  
High School, 9-12

Capacity: 600 students

Size of Site: 15 acres

Area of Building:  
123,000 square feet

Volume of Building:  
2.1 million cubic feet

Space per Student:  
205 square feet

Cost per Student: \$36,166

Square Foot Cost: \$176

Cost of Construction:  
\$21.7 million

Total Project Cost:  
\$23.3 million

Contract Date: March 2006

Completion Date: Aug. 2007

# Turtle Mountain Community High School

*Belcourt, North Dakota*

KKE Architects, Inc.



VIEW OF SOUTHWEST ENTRY PLAZA

**T**urtle Mountain Community High School's T shape provides specialized learning environments for math, science, language arts, social studies, special education, cultural studies, the arts, and technical skills. The layout also orients the classrooms for maximum daylight with north and south window exposures. At the building's center, a multipurpose commons area acts as the main turnstile and cafeteria for the school. Its two-story ceilings and glass walls exaggerate the open spaciousness of the gathering place and visually connect the inside to the outside.

Maintaining exterior views and increasing natural light in learning environments have shown to contribute to reduced absenteeism and enhanced student performance. These also are recognized as part of the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Rating System, which KKE relied on for guidance in our design. We also focused on energy performance, and recycled and local materials.

Continuing to incorporate natural light and visual interaction, KKE positioned the



MEDIA CENTER ABOVE MAIN ENTRY



COMMONS AREA STAIR

school's administrative offices, gymnasium, and media center adjacent to the commons area. The glass-enclosed media center on the second floor offers interior views of the commons

and exterior views onto the main entrance. Visitors looking into the media center will notice that its glowing light resembles a lantern, welcoming students, staff, and visitors. ■

PHOTOS: KKE ARCHITECTS, INC.