



Entire School/
Campus Building
New Construction

VCBO ARCHITECTURE

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Salt Lake City, UT 84118
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Boyd McAllister, AIA
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DESIGN TEAM

Boyd McAllister, AIA,
VCBO Architecture,
Principal-in-Charge
Jeanne Jackson, AIA, LEED AP,
VCBO Architecture,
Project Architect
Chris Pilkington,
Pilkington Construction,
Contractor

OWNER/CLIENT

Yuma Union High
School District
Yuma, AZ
Gerrick Monroe,
Assistant Superintendent
928/726-4628

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

Capacity: 1,800 students

Size of Site: 65 acres

Area of Building:
290,000 square feet

Volume of Building:
3.8 million cubic feet

Space per Student:
161 square feet

Cost per Student: \$24,963

Square Foot Cost: \$154

Cost of Construction:
\$44.9 million

Total Project Cost:
\$53 million

Contract Date: Oct. 2004

Completion Date: Aug. 2007

Percent of Completion: 100%

HIGH SCHOOLS

Gila Ridge High School

Yuma, Arizona

VCBO Architecture



MAIN ENTRANCE

The Gila Ridge High School offered an exciting opportunity for VCBO Architecture to work with the community with the joint objective of bringing cutting-edge school design to Yuma, Arizona. Situated on a bluff adjacent to Arizona Western College, the high school enjoys the panoramic vistas of the desert Southwest. The year-round favorable climate allows for a spine of exterior circulation that connects each department with an outdoor gathering space and learning environment.

In addition, the architectural implementation of small learning communities has created a friendly and engaging campus. Design of the new school incorporates the regional architecture and is especially sympathetic to the issues of solar orientation, shading, daylighting, and climate.

Programming for the new high school began in October of 2004. This process included the support and teamwork of local administrators, teachers, students, maintenance person-



OUTDOOR PLAZA



OUTDOOR CIRCULATION

nel, and parents. All members of the community were encouraged to participate in the design process of the new school.

From those working sessions, a vision of the new

school emerged that integrated both contemporary teaching concepts and an existing curriculum with an open campus, an inspiring sense of place, and a safe, inviting environment for learning. ■

PHOTOS: VCBO ARCHITECTURE