



Entire School/  
Campus Building  
New Construction

**NTD ARCHITECTURE**

9655 Granite Ridge Drive,  
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Richard E. Nowicki, AIA,  
Partner  
858/565-4440

**DESIGN TEAM**

Richard E. Nowicki, AIA,  
Principal-in-Charge  
Buddy Gessel, AIA, LEED AP,  
Lead Designer/Architect  
Mike Norton, RA,  
Project Architect  
Kian Manoochehri-Farr, RA,  
Job Captain

**OWNER/CLIENT**

Murrieta Valley Unified  
School District  
Murrieta, CA  
William Olieni,  
Assistant Superintendent  
951/696-1600  
Type of School and  
Grades Served:  
High School, 9-12  
Capacity: 2,200 students  
Size of Site: 62 acres  
Area of Building:  
256,988 square feet  
Volume of Building:  
5.4 million cubic feet  
Space per Student:  
116.8 square feet  
Cost per Student: \$46,818  
Square Foot Cost: \$400  
Cost of Construction:  
\$103 million  
Contract Date: March 2005  
Completion Date: Aug. 2009  
Percent of Completion: 6%

**HIGH SCHOOLS**

**Murrieta Mesa High School**  
*Murrieta, California*

NTD Architecture



EXTERIOR RENDERING AT DUSK

Murrieta Valley Unified School District conducted surveys to determine the type of high school desired by the community. The response was overwhelmingly in favor of a comprehensive high school. Intensive focus groups discussed and refined an understanding of the functional needs and aspirations that shape the design. Key elements that evolved from this process were making connections, campus identity, and teacher planning areas.

The architecture evolves from an understanding of the theater, administration areas, and the gymnasium as public-civic elements supporting the private spaces of the classrooms. The public-civic elements are arranged to front the public street, while the classrooms are arranged around a large plaza that becomes the campus heart. The commons accommodates simultaneous student activities. Access into the plaza and connections out to the larger community are found through entry courtyards and view corridors.



CAFÉ



COMMONS

Heat islands are reduced by the use of cool roofing, shade, and lightened impervious areas. The indoor environment has improved acoustics, thermal comfort, daylighting, and the use of low-emitting materials. Seventy-five percent

of construction waste will be recycled.

A learning environment has been created to allow students to cultivate their desire for life-long learning, enabling them to successfully contribute to society. ■

RENDERINGS: NOWELL & ASSOCIATES