



Green School Building
New Construction

KEVIN HART ARCHITECTURE

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Tim Morshead
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DESIGN TEAM

Kevin Hart, AIA,
Principal-in-Charge

Tim Morshead, Lead Designer

Michael McGroarty, Designer

SWA, Landscape Design

Guttman & Blaevoet,
Mechanical Design

Vance Brown Builders,
General Contractor

OWNER/CLIENT

Menlo School
Atherton, CA

Norm Colb,
Head of School
650/330-2000

Type of School
and Grades Served:
High School &
Middle School, 6-12

Capacity: 1,000 students

Size of Site: 2.7 acres

Area of Building:
53,660 square feet

Volume of Building:
2 million cubic feet

Space per Student:
54 square feet

Cost per Student: \$18,650

Square Foot Cost: \$348

Cost of Construction:
\$18.6 million

Total Project Cost: \$21.3 million

Contract Date: Dec. 2008

Completion Date: Sept. 2010

Menlo School Athletic Center

Atherton, California

Kevin Hart Architecture

This independent school chose a building site constrained by heritage trees, a strict height limit, and vocal residential neighbors. The design capitalizes on these constraints to provide two gyms below grade, surrounded by lockers, fitness rooms, classrooms, and offices.

The building's L-shape activates campus open spaces on two sides, while presenting a quiet face to its neighbors. To the east, a wide porch with a wood soffit draws spectators from the center of campus into a generous lobby from which they overlook and descend, arena-style, into the gymnasiums. A long display box embedded in the exterior wall showcases memorabilia from inside and out. To the south, a new outdoor space for middle school recreation is framed by a wood stage for quiet play and a tall, faceted gymnasium wall. This folded concrete rebound wall encourages ball play and invented games, while



FRONT ENTRANCE



MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY YARD

inscribed numerals and symbols provide teaching aids and clues to hidden geometrical relationships.

The gyms are naturally ventilated with air tempered by the cool earth below grade. Where air conditioning is

required, a ground-source heat pump transfers heat noiselessly via a closed water loop into the earth. Reduced energy consumption and on-site stormwater filtration enable a LEED Silver certification. ■



MAIN GYMNASIUM