



Andy Dekaney High School

Houston, Texas

SHW Group

Entire School/
Campus Building
New Construction

SHW GROUP

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Mary Beth Reuter
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DESIGN TEAM

Gary Blanton, AIA,
Managing Principal

Mark Lam, PhD, AIA,
Principal-in-Charge

Stuart Campbell, AIA,
Project Manager

Jody Henry, LEED AP, Job Captain

Frank Kelly, FAIA,
Planner/Programmer

Bill Wadley, AIA, Designer

OWNER/CLIENT

Spring Independent
School District
Houston, TX

Dr. Ralph H. Draper,
Superintendent
281/891-6000

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

Capacity: 2,500 students

Size of Site: 80.7 acres

Area of Building:
486,000 square feet

Volume of Building:
6.5 million cubic feet

Space per Student:
194 square feet

Cost per Student: \$22,332

Square Foot Cost: \$115

Cost of Construction:
\$55.8 million

Total Project Cost: \$75.4 million

Contract Date: Mar. 2005

Completion Date: May 2007

Percent of Completion: 100%



MAIN STREET

Andy Dekaney High School is situated on an 80.7-acre wooded site and includes native landscaping, local materials, and natural surface finishes that not only create a comfortable aesthetic but are inherently low maintenance and durable. The school is organized around four academic learning communities for core curriculum and a fifth house for electives, languages, fine arts, and athletics. The small learning community concept breaks down the scale of the school, creating an engaging academic environment. Each house is vertically aligned with students in grades 9-12. These alignments allow consistency of peers, teachers, and administrators. The different houses, while drawing from the same palette of building materials, use different colors, doors, trim, and wainscot to derive individual identities. Each house has its own flex space that can be used as a student lounge or small-group teaching space.

Flexibility is a key design element in the primary areas of



LIBRARY INTERIOR



THEATER INTERIOR

this facility. The 900-seat auditorium can be subdivided into two 150-seat teaching theaters with one 600-seat auditorium; the large-group instruction space is subdivided into three areas by operable walls; the

media center includes four conference rooms; and the competition gymnasium includes a backward-folding bleacher that forms a wall to divide the court from a dance practice area. ■

PHOTOS: RICHARD PAYNE, FAIA