Wilbur & McMahon School

Little Compton, Rhode Island

General Information

Location: 28 Commons, Little Compton, RI 02837

Construction Cost: $10,090,000

Total Project Cost: $10,841,425.80

Scope: 75,935 ft^2

Cost Per Square Foot: $142.77/$ft^2$

Completion: 2014

Enrollment: 215

Architect: DBVW Architects

Engineers: Garcia Galuska DeSousa Consulting Engineers

Certification: NE-CHPS

Funding: Town Bond and RIDE Immediate Health and Safety Repairs

The school was originally constructed in 1929 with subsequent classroom additions in 1938 and 1952. Major additions also occurred for a gymnasium in 1959, a large open classroom wing in 1972; and administration and art/music in 1990.

The project consisted of immediate health and safety improvements to the existing facility. This included numerous life safety improvements such as re-establishment of egress corridors for clear circulation, a new fire alarm system and door hardware replacement. Other improvements included a new roof and insulation, gym window replacement, limited interior work for a new science lab and media center, secure entrance vestibule; and all new mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection infrastructure. A small addition was also added to the west of the gymnasium to house an above grade fire protection storage tank and fire pump. The school also functions as the hub for municipal domestic water system around the Commons. Classrooms also received new lighting with daylight and occupancy sensor controls and dual roll window shades.

The mechanical system design specifically utilized a central boiler plant with oil fired boilers and indoor air handling units for enhanced thermal and acoustical performance and longevity. Although permitted in existing schools, unit ventilators were not desired. Dx cooling was provided for the media center; and a new RTU was provided for the administration area.

Energy costs reduced by $19,335 per year.

COLLABORATIVE FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE SCHOOLS

This case study was prepared by NEEP with information provided by DBVW Architects. For more information about High Performance Schools, please contact John Balfe, NEEP High Performance Buildings Associate at jbalfe@neep.org or 781-860-9177 x109. All photos credit to DBVW Architects.