



Advanced Technology Education Center

Designing for sustainability and educational partnership

Wayne State University's new Advanced Technology Education Center (ATEC) was built to equip an emerging workforce and cultivate new talent and economic opportunities in the greater Detroit area. NORR's design team used 80% of the original steel structure of an existing 1970s-era grocery store and transformed it into a technology-infused modern school building for up to 900 students.

A curtain wall system wraps the building's exterior in a mix of industrial-style corrugated and smooth paneling. The light-filled lobby has pockets of specialized spaces elegantly designed for socializing, studying, informal gatherings and non-traditional learning. A pedestrian walkway links to one of the university's partner schools, Macomb Community College, emphasizing the partnership between the two campuses and making it easier for students to travel between both. Our designs for HVAC and lighting systems, which are projected to use of 30% less energy than the current ASHRAE baseline, contributed to the building achieving LEED® Gold certification.

CLIENT	Wayne State University
PORTFOLIO	Education
CATEGORY	Higher Education
SIZE	40,000 SF (3,715 SM)
LOCATION	Warren, MI, US
DATE	October 2014
SERVICES	Architecture MEP Engineering Structural Engineering Interior Design

AWARDS

- 2015 Engineering Society of Detroit (ESD), Construction & Design Award Winner
- 2015 Washtenaw Contractors Association, Pyramid Award for Best Project Team Between \$3 and \$25 Million

Education

It's an exciting time in education. Changing pedagogies, advancing technologies and evolving student expectations are influencing educational facility design. The places in which students interact, engage and learn must be hands-on, flexible and technologically advanced. From primary schools to higher education institutions, we carefully craft connections between students, faculty and staff to positively influence learning outcomes.

Good Design Enhances Learning

From early instruction to higher education, we consider the progression of the student experience; we know that good design enhances learning outcomes. Creating a stimulating environment can directly influence the development and pace of learning for students of any age. Students learn in many different ways, and we understand the importance of crafting a facility that is inclusive – a place where all students, faculty and staff can feel warm, welcome and equal.

Navigating Complexity

NORR recognizes that the spaces we create and the environments we shape have a profound impact on the people who use them. Our mission is to deliver distinctive, high-functioning, sustainable and cost effective design solutions that are unique to each client. We fulfill these goals and aspirations by engaging our

clients in a dynamic, inclusive and creative partnership with the design team throughout the planning and design process. Our design teams work collaboratively with all stakeholders to implement solutions that are effective, economical and environmentally responsible.

We implement systems and strategies guided by sustainability, durability, budget and common sense. We select building materials and systems that will perform over a significant life span while maintaining their intended appearance and efficiency. Our goal is to create an environment that meets and exceeds the client's functional, visual and fiscal requirements, while conveying the essence of the school's identity, values and culture.

CONTACT

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