



Architecture Masterplanning Interior Design Image Design

WGM Design, Inc. Helps Summit School Receive Silver LEED Certification.

March 2013, Vol. 02

:Green



Being "green", or achieving a LEED certified project requires commitment from the client, keen analysis and design from the architectural and engineering team, and discipline and documentation on behalf of the contractor. In our case, the client was [Summit School](#) in Winston-Salem, NC, the engineers were [Talbot & Associates](#) and the contractor was [Frank L. Blum Construction](#)...and our achievement was LEED SILVER utilizing the LEED for Schools program of the USGC, and the first such accomplishment by an Independent School in North Carolina.

Summit School has a long history of engaging and respecting the environment. This was resounded with the commitment to "go green" with the design and construction of its new Athletic Center and the adjacent Classroom building. "Going for LEED certification was a natural for Summit," said Michael Ebeling, Ph.D., Head of School. "Building green buildings reflects our core values, our mindset, and our long history of working to limit our carbon footprint."

Highlights of some the elements that helped achieve LEED silver are as follows:

- The two buildings share a central heating and cooling plant and an innovative radiant cooling system which generates no noise in the classrooms.
- Classrooms and performance spaces utilize natural lighting which has proven to increase student performance. It is supplemented by Indirect lighting controls with diffused sources to eliminate shadows.
- Rooms use a passive air flow system that increases the amount of fresh air inside the buildings.
- Materials and products in the buildings such as paints, flooring and wall treatments are all low VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) therefore reducing irritants emitted into the air quality.
- Water use was reduced by using dual-flush toilets, waterless urinals, and low flow faucets.
- Three large oak trees on campus were milled locally to use for window sills and accent trim.

Stay tuned for more topics, stories, and fun facts from 4-Square.



funFACT

North Carolina will be home to the biggest solar photovoltaic (PV) farm in the eastern U.S. when local developer Strata gets approval for 100 megawatt plant. www.solarfeeds.com

Also in the News:

Congratulations to our client Tom McKittrick & Forsite Development on his successful agreement to develop Charlotte's largest ECO Industrial Park, "ReVenture Park". The park hopes to include production of biofuel as well as renewable energies and also incorporate mixed-use and housing. See more at www.reventurepark.com.

We have recently registered LEED building projects for a Corporate Headquarters, Cannon School, and Providence Day School.

For more information about these projects and others, please visit our new redesigned website at www.wgmdesign.com

Green Topics and links of interest:

- www.usgbc.org
- <http://new.usgbc.org/articles/green-school-facts>
- <http://retrofitmagazine.com/LEED-and-economic-development/>

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