

Chartwell School

A CHPS High Performance School

This new school is located in Seaside, California, near scenic Monterey Bay. It is designed to serve 160 students grades kindergarten through eighth. This school was also designed to meet the Criteria of the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS). CHPS is a non-profit organization made up of state agencies, public utilities, school facility planning officials and designers. CHPS aims to facilitate the design of high performance schools: environments that are not only energy efficient, but also healthy, comfortable, well lit and contain the amenities needed for a quality education.

Chartwell School followed the CHPS Criteria, a flexible yardstick used to design a high performance school anywhere in California. Criteria points can be obtained through a broad range of high-performance building design strategies including daylighting, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, acoustics, building commissioning, sustainable materials, waste reduction, preventative maintenance, site protection, and water conservation. Chartwell School surpassed the CHPS minimum requirements for a High Performance School (28) earning 57 CHPS points!

EHDD Architecture employed careful planning and attention to detail in order to achieve its high performance goals. Chartwell School exceeds Title 24 (2001) energy standards by 30% through daylit spaces, radiant heat and naturally ventilated spaces, however by utilizing its 30 Kw Photovoltaic system the school can reduce its net electrical usage by 100%. Special attention to material selection was made a priority for environmental protection and to ensure healthy indoor air quality. Materials and finishes were chosen that were rapidly renewable (bamboo flooring and cork wallcovering), low-emitting (carpet and paint), and materials with high recycled content (such as building insulation, steel, rubber roofing, concrete and latex paint) were specified. At least 80 percent of the construction waste was recycled rather than land filled. Water was conserved to ensure lower operational costs and preservation of resources by selecting waterless urinals and high efficiency irrigation technology.

Skylights and daylit classrooms coupled with optimal building orientation are expected to enhance student performance and reduce the need for electric light. The classrooms are also sound isolated with resilient channels and acoustic insulation achieving an optimal desired noise level in a learning environment, 45dbA.

The benefits to sustainable design are immense. CHPS Schools are designed to: improve student and teacher health, heighten student performance, decreased operating costs, lower absenteeism, and enhance the indoor and outdoor environment. CHPS congratulates Chartwell School and its design team for its execution of a high performing school!



“ The execution and integration of the CHPS high performance guidelines in Chartwell School make it an excellent example for other schools to follow and learn from. ” Charles Eley, CHPS Executive Director



