

GREEN SCHOOL

What is a High Performance Green Building?

- A project created via cooperation among building owners, facility managers, users, designers and construction professionals through a collaborative team approach.
- A project that conceptualizes a number of systems that, when integrated, can bring efficiencies to mechanical operation and human performance.
- A project that considers the “true costs” of a building’s impact on the local and regional environment.
- A project that considers the “life-cycle costs” of a product or system. These are costs associated with its manufacture, operation, maintenance and disposal.
- A building that creates opportunities for interaction with the natural environment and defers to contextual issues such as climate, orientation and other influences.
- A building that uses resources efficiently and maximizes use of local building materials.
- A project that minimizes demolition and construction wastes and uses products that minimize waste in their production or disposal.
- A building that is energy and resource efficient.
- A building that can be easily reconfigured and reused.
- A building with healthy indoor environments.
- A project that uses appropriate technologies, including natural and low tech products and systems, before applying complex or resource intensive solutions.
- A building that includes an environmentally sound operations and maintenance regimen.
- A project that educates building occupants and users to the philosophies, strategies and controls included in the design, construction and maintenance of the project.

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Design Elements

- Site Planning and landscape
- Day lighting
- Energy efficient shell design
- Energy efficient light and electrical systems
- Solar & Wind systems – Renewable energy
- Energy efficient mechanical and ventilation systems
- Building products and systems
- Indoor Air Quality
- Water conservation
- Recycling systems and waste management
- Transportation
- Building Commissioning and maintenance

Potential Benefits

- Reduce absenteeism
- Improve health of students and staff
- Lower Operations and maintenance costs
- Potential to increase test scores
- Improve Indoor Air Quality
- Decrease impact on environment
- Improved Teaching and Learning Environment