



EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School of Literature and Technology New Orleans, LA



Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School of Literature & Technology, located in the Gentilly neighborhood in New Orleans, LA, opened to students in August 2015. The new, 106,000-sf school serves 788 students in grades PreK through 8. Bethune Elementary's new construction was part of the Recovery School District's 2011 School Facilities Master Plan for rebuilding public schools in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

The school's design is organized around a U-shaped plan with central courtyard. Learning spaces (classrooms, labs), located in a 3-story academic wing on the site's quieter north side, make the most of natural light, and provide views of the playground and courtyard. The main entry, administration and student services, in the school's center, provide optimum public accessibility. Larger assembly spaces—gym and cafeteria—are located on the opposite, "busy" side of the site with a bus drop-off under existing live oak trees.

Major exterior materials are masonry (face brick, ground-face CMU), pre-finished horizontal 12" metal panels in varying profiles, and an aluminum window system with low-E glass and solar shading on the south. The project achieved its goal of LEED Silver, incorporating cost-effective energy-saving and sustainable design strategies.



### New Construction/Addition

Entire school/campus building

#### Sizeler Thompson Brown Architects

300 Lafayette St., Ste. 200  
New Orleans, LA 70130  
sizeler.com  
Brian Faucheux, AIA, LEED AP  
504/523-6472

#### DESIGN TEAM

Brian Faucheux, AIA, LEED AP, Principal-In-Charge  
Susan Gohd, AIA, LEED AP, Project Manager  
Crystal Mitchell, AIA, LEED AP, Architect  
Matthew Hostetter, LEED AP, Job Captain  
Robin Roussel, Interior Designer  
Randy McCaffrey, Construction Administrator

#### OWNER/CLIENT

Louisiana Recovery School District  
New Orleans, LA  
Ronald Bordon, Chief Facilities Officer  
504/373-6200

#### KEYSTATS

Grades Served: PreK-8  
Capacity: 788 students  
Size of Site: 3.1 acres  
Building Area: 106,000 gsf  
Space per Student: 134.5 sq. ft.  
Cost per Student: \$32,233  
Square Foot Cost: \$240  
Project Cost: \$25,400,000  
Completion Date: August 2015  
Sustainability Rating Status: LEED SILVER (certified)

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL PALUMBO

