



# NEWS

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## 12<sup>th</sup> STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE NEXT WEEK

**Bloomfield Hills, Mich., August 28, 2009** — 12th Street Elementary School, of Portage Public Schools, will host a dedication and community open house on Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup> from 4:30PM until 6:00PM. The official dedication ceremony will take place at 5:15PM following building tours and refreshments. The new 72,550 square foot school features an efficient design, and represents the only two-story elementary school in the district.

TMP Architecture, Portage, designed the new school as one of four projects resulting from the \$119 million November 2007 bond issue passed by Portage voters. Other district projects include new Lake Center Elementary School as well as significant renovations and additions at Northern High School and Central High School.

The compact design of the new school means less to build and less to maintain for district personnel. Project goals included a sustainable design with 'green' construction elements. A geothermal loop and heat pumps provide the school with an energy-efficient heating and cooling system. The project team included commissioning of building systems, recycling of construction materials and the use of renewable (i.e. low VOC interior finishes) and recyclable construction / finish systems in plans for the new school.

Access drives and parking are located on previously undeveloped areas of the site. The building is organized with four color-coded corridors that connect to the 2-story lobby. Visitors are routed through the main office via subtle, friendly security. Amenities include new furniture; a custom built-in lobby display case; two new media centers for upper and lower grades; an art room with a stained concrete floor; a dual-purpose platform that functions as part of the music room and a wood gymnasium floor.

The \$14.8 million project cost includes \$1.4 million for technology.



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TMP, celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, has offices in Portage and Bloomfield Hills, Michigan as well as Columbus, Ohio. The firm produces a variety of projects for K-12 educational, college / university and municipal clients. Recent award-winning projects include two new LEED Silver Certified high schools in Michigan: Whitmore Lake High School, Whitmore Lake and Skyline High School, Ann Arbor. Some of the firm's current work includes various projects for Hillsdale College and for Battle Creek Public Schools.

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