



## Mark Twain Elementary School

*New school design brings more space, more light, more community use, and more flexible learning opportunities for Bettendorf community*

### Overview

Community planning sessions revealed the need to upgrade the Bettendorf Community Schools' elementary school buildings. The 62-year-old Mark Twain Elementary School is the next school to be addressed —the dark and operationally inefficient facility has severe space shortages that restrict the curriculum and limit community use.

### Fast Facts

Grades: PK-5

Sections: 3 (previously 2)

Student capacity: 450+ (previously 350) Square footage (SF)

- Total: 65,800 SF (previously 44,555 SF)
- Classrooms: PK-K: 1,000+ SF; Grades 1 – 5: 900+ SF
- Gymnasium: 6,000 SF (previous cafeteria/gym 2,400 SF)
- Commons: 3,900 SF (previously no commons area)

Project cost: \$16.5 million

Estimated completion: - November 2019

Focus on flexibility: many multipurpose areas

Energy-efficient HVAC system

More space devoted to student learning needs

New school to be built adjacent to the old school; when construction finishes, the old school will be demolished for adequate parking and green space

### Highlights

- Design incorporates 21<sup>st</sup> century learning concepts into more traditional school design
- Learning pods between classrooms provide space for collaborative opportunities and small group instruction
- Makerspace supports robot building, hands-on science and learning through discovery; space includes work areas with device plug-in, markerboard tables, and writeable wall space
- Learning stair links media center, commons/cafeteria, and gymnasium which provides flexibility for large group learning
- Library's large glass walls overlook Duck Creek
- Bus drop-off is designed to be independent from car drop-off
- More capacity for parking and student drop-off

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### **Learning Space**

The design of the new elementary school provides much-needed improvements in learning areas for all students. Breakout areas are located throughout the building, and large areas have been designed for small group work as well as adult learning.

### **Improved Community Use**

The combined cafeteria/gymnasium in the old school created conflicts with scheduling and limited community use. The new Mark Twain has a separate cafeteria and gym. The gym, more than twice as large as the old one, not only expands the PE program, but also welcomes community recreation programs.

### **More Information**

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### **Team Members**

Architect: Legat Architects  
Construction Manager: Bush Construction  
MEP Engineer: RTM Engineering Consultants  
Structural Engineer: IMEG  
Civil Engineer: IMEG  
Foodservice: Clevenger Associates