**Beavercreek City Schools: Trebein Elementary & Coy Middle School**

The design of this new academic campus was driven by the need to balance the practical requirement to share a common site, facilities and services with the desire for unique identities for the Elementary and Middle schools. It was also important to create clear way-finding, connectivity between distinct programmatic areas, and a cohesive aesthetic character to the entire facility – a character that portrays a 21st Century rigorous and creative academic curriculum and environment rooted in collaboration and communication. The schools are separated (and united) by a shared central quadrangle formed by grouping public functions (gyms, libraries, cafeterias, administrative areas) around a central open green. This green-space is not just a no-man’s-land. Instead, it offers to all faculty and students the opportunity for outdoor instruction and activities, special events and even performances which can capitalize on a gentle amphitheater generated by the contours of the grading.

Academic wings extend out from the central core creating minor courtyards between them and maximizing opportunities for day-lighting classrooms. Responsible stewardship of resources was a high priority for the owner, both in terms of dollars and natural resources. The highly efficient mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems do double duty as teaching tools, with exhibit rooms for HVAC equipment, informational graphics throughout the campus and even cut-away wall sections to show first-hand how the buildings make the best use of the district’s assets. The entire 251,400 SF facility utilized insulated concrete forms as the primary exterior wall system, resulting in a highly efficient exterior envelope. The efficient systems and facility design positioned the completed project to earn the largest energy rebate check from Duke at the time that it was presented: $575,000.00.

The material palette tells a story, with the stone of the administration blocks forming guardians of the campus, the classroom wings balancing the strong historic tradition of the brick base with a view to equipping students for the future embodied in the metal panels. Finally, the wood panels at the media center are associated with the mystery and promise of treasure chests.

In a short period of time, the new combined public K-8 facility has become the proud symbol of and center for the community, a cultural destination for a variety of different programmatic needs, and most importantly a place where kids and staff, energized and inspired by their new home, love to show up every day to continue their academic journey.