K-12 Architect Selection Checklist

What to Consider When Procuring Architectural Services

✅ Where are you in your planning process?
Do you need help with programming or educational specifications? Have you defined your project or are you exploring possibilities?
Ask firms to share their experiences in situations similar to yours.

✅ What’s your School District’s philosophy?
How do you handle community input? Do you need help bringing disparate voices together? What’s your decision-making process?
Seek a team with demonstrated success in communication.

✅ Ask the right questions in your RFP.
Once you solicit proposals, make sure you’re asking questions that will help find the right firm:
• Firm experience
• Project portfolio
• Individual team members
• Industry recognition
• Sub-consultant selection
• References and recommendations
Tailor your search to target the best partner for success - for your project and your students. Visit their schools and meet their people.

Learn more about planning for success

Grimm + Parker is committed to design for learning. We help educators and administrators plan for success, even before your next project is identified. Send us an email and we’ll be in touch: contactus@gparch.com

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Located in an urban area, where it is integrated into the community fabric both physically and culturally, Discovery STEM Academy is designed to support student-driven, real-world, project-based learning where the teacher is the facilitator.

The concepts of Leadership, Nutrition, Fitness, and Discovery provide a meaningful zoning matrix for the building, keeping students and teachers mindful of these overriding themes. Formal and informal learning spaces, of many sizes and configurations, provide areas for collaboration throughout the building and campus, promoting small group, peer-to-peer and individual learning.

- 97,600 sf, 850 students
- Completed in 2016
- Construction Budget: $22.8M (excluding FFE, technology, and contingency)
- Construction Bid: $22.8M

Louisa’s only high school was destroyed by an earthquake in 2011, creating a crisis for the community. Designed in record time, and bid on budget, the new three-story comprehensive high school allows Louisa to provide student-centered learning environments, the latest in technology, and dedicated CTE programs, all within an energy efficient building designed for safety and security.

- 273,000 sf, 1,750 students
- Completed in 2015
- Construction Budget: $47.9M (excluding FFE, technology, contingency, and demolition)
- Construction Bid: $46.6M