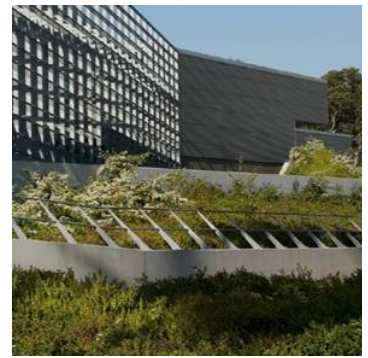


## school design principles



# The 'Greening' of LAUSD Campuses

In undertaking a project of the magnitude of the New School Construction and Modernization Program, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is committed to providing better learning environments for its students. Green, high performance designs have a substantial impact on the environment and public health, and contribute to a more effective learning environment through increased daylighting and improved acoustics.

LAUSD was the first school district in the state of California to adopt the sustainability standards of the **Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS)**. The point-based system defines a high performance school as energy, material and water efficient, as well as healthy, comfortable, and easy to maintain and operate. New schools designed to CHPS standards can save 30 to 40 percent on annual utility costs.

In 2001, the Board of Education passed a resolution adopting CHPS as a guideline for building sustainable schools, and in 2003, the Board made CHPS official policy. Every LAUSD school that will undergo construction or major modernization must achieve – and ideally exceed – a minimum of 28 CHPS points out of 81 possible points.

A school earns CHPS points by meeting criteria in six categories:

- **Location** – a site located near public transportation with stormwater management
- **Water** – installation of high-efficiency faucets, toilets and irrigation, as well as drought-resistant landscaping
- **Energy** – use of energy-efficient equipment and renewable energy – such as solar power and daylighting – as well as natural ventilation and sun-shading
- **Materials** – use of recycled and/or sustainable materials

- **Indoor Environmental Quality** – creation of visually, thermally and acoustically comfortable environments, with quality lighting, minimal outside noise in classrooms, and low-emitting or non-toxic materials
- **Policy and Operations** – sustainable operation and maintenance policies

LAUSD recently opened two showcase high performance schools – Maywood

Academy, a 1,200-student, 45-classroom high school in the city of Maywood, and Charles H. Kim Elementary, an 800-student, 32-classroom elementary school in Koreatown. Both schools are featured as CHPS Demonstration Schools on the CHPS Web site, [www.chps.net](http://www.chps.net).

In 2007, LAUSD was inducted into the Green California Schools Hall of Fame and was honored with the CHPS Green Apple Award for teamwork in building green schools. Most recently, LAUSD received the 2008 Global Green Millennium Award for its ongoing leadership in providing students with healthy, sustainable learning environments.

As of 2008, CHPS criteria have been applied to the planning and design of 65 new schools and 15 existing schools.

