

## FACT SHEET

### Tech High School

**Overview:** Cuningham Group, in collaboration with IIW-Minnesota, designed a new 320,000-square-foot high school in St. Cloud, Minnesota, to replace the existing 100-year-old Tech High School.

**Client Name:** St. Cloud Area School District 742

**Location:** 4200 33<sup>rd</sup> Street South, St. Cloud, MN 56301

**Unique Design Features:**

- The school's footprint is designed so that students and visitors must drive through the woodland landscape, progressing through trees and across a creek, before arriving at the building's main entrance. This short journey creates a liminal space wherein the school and its surrounding environment are joined, intentionally disconnecting students from the adjacent residential areas.
- Learning neighborhoods are positioned to the north of the site, pushing them up against the forest and providing access to gorgeous views and generous amounts of northern light.
- The main student commons is dominated by a full, east-facing glass wall. This bold feature allows the early morning sun to penetrate deep within the space, greeting students each day with a welcoming, natural light.
- Robinson Hill Creek, a protected trout stream, runs through the north end of the site and all storm water was infiltrated on site through an extensive use of rain gardens, native landscaping, and permeable pavers. All stormwater on site is filtered and temperature regulated to match the temperature of the stream before it is introduced back into the aquifer or stream itself.
- The building's granite façade is a nod to St. Cloud's identity as "The Granite City." All of the granite used on the building's exterior was excavated from a local quarry, just 10 miles from the site.
- Interior designers used a color palette that reflected St. Cloud's collective history; hues of deep charcoal and rust

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pay homage to the city's roots in the granite industry, while angled intersections of metal, stone, and wood evoke the train tracks that were vital in connecting St. Cloud to the industrial east coast.

- Career & Technical Education (CTE) labs are integrated throughout the school. By placing the CTE labs adjacent to the other learning neighborhoods, not only do students have easier access to these spaces, but the added transparency highlights the many different ways in which learners can be innovative and take their education into their own hands.
- A two-story FAB lab is placed at the heart of the school, just off of the student commons.
- The learning resource center takes the shape of a coffee shop — an informal area for gathering, studying, and eating. This environment spills out onto an outdoor patio area where a variety of furniture types lend students the flexibility to use the space as they wish.
- The school is split into three separate learning neighborhoods, each of which is gathered around an open, two-story, informal learning area. The three neighborhoods — which are visually branded with colors and graphics representing the way light changes throughout the day in a forest — provide a variety of learning spaces, from classroom-equivalent learning studios, to more personal medium and small group learning rooms.
- Roughly 80 percent of the walls in each learning neighborhood are useable (writing or tacking), and the use of a steel post and beam structural system and of moveable walls means that staff will be able to reconfigure the space as needed.

Project Size:	320,000 square feet
Project Cost:	\$104,500,000.00
Schedule:	Construction Start: September 5, 2017 Move-In: August 16, 2019
Architecture Firms:	Cunningham Group Architecture Inc., Minneapolis, MN IIW Minnesota, St. Cloud, Minnesota
Cunningham Group Team:	Principal-in-Charge/Design Principal - John Pfluger, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP®



Managing Principal and Educational Planner - Meg Parsons, AIA, NCARB, ALEP, LEED AP®BD+C  
Project Lead Designer - Scott Krenner, AIA  
Project Manager - Amy Kalar, AIA, LEED AP®BD+C, EDAC, GP  
Project Leader - Charles Stoffel, AIA, LEED AP®  
Primary Construction Administrator - John Vande Castle  
Interior Designers - Mackenzie Henle, Katie Volker  
Sustainability - Jen Garman, AIA, NCARB  
Landscape Project Team - Devon Clark, David Motenzbecker, Morgan Mangelsen

Architectural Partner Firm:

IIW, P.C.  
David Leapaldt, AIA, CID, LEED AP  
Whitney Loughheed, AIA, LEED AP

Partner Firm Role:

Local Architect

Note:

33 additional local contractors were employed on the project. 65 percent of the contractors are within 50 miles of the project site.

Structural engineer:

Clark Engineering Corporation

Mechanical engineer:

Karges-Faulconbridge, Inc.

Electrical engineer:

Karges-Faulconbridge, Inc.

Civil engineer:

Design Tree Engineering

Lighting designer:

Karges-Faulconbridge, Inc.

Acoustics:

Kvernstoen, Rönholm, & Associates, Inc.

Theatre:

Schuler Shook

Kitchen Consultant:

Rippe Associates

Pool:

Reengineered, Inc.

Construction Manager:

ICS Consulting, Inc.