



**New Elementary School**  
Cantonment, Florida

This new elementary school for 800 students in K–5th grades is the School District’s first elementary learning environment whose formal design intent is to embrace 21st century teaching pedagogies. To provide a 21st century learning environment, we turned to evidence-based design research to assist us in validating the program and to strategically align all of our design decisions to reinforce and enhance the overall experience for the children. Critical design elements included:

- Maximizing the amount of natural daylighting into each classroom
- Providing technology-enabled learning opportunities
- Creating agile classrooms to respond to any learning mode
- Providing an energizing Innovation Center
- Providing proper acoustical control between learning spaces
- Providing a safe environment for learning

The building is designed so that all classrooms have a north/south orientation to maximize daylighting opportunities. This orientation also allows for optimized energy savings and opportunities that are critical to this client. Each classroom is arranged to provide maximum flexibility for the various teaching modalities, and technology is accessible for everyone on any device. Brick veneer and cast stone were utilized on the facades to complement the existing context, for ease of maintenance, and to create a timeless appearance.