

Lick-Wilmerding High School

San Francisco, California, USA
Pfauf Architecture, Ltd.

■ The new technology and design center for the Lick-Wilmerding High School represents the school's unique dedication and appreciation for arts education. The design also provided the opportunity to create an environment that would encourage collaboration and inspire a sense of community for its users.

The school's integrated and demanding academic curriculum places a strong emphasis on the technical and fine arts—the only college preparatory school in the US with this program. Over the years, the school had nearly exhausted available opportunities to expand within its own property and felt forced to proceed with a building location on the eastern edge of the existing field. This move, dictated by the existing master plan, would drastically alter the experience of the school, cutting off the views of the distant hills.

Departing from the previous master plan, this design extends the lower level of the campus, placing the workshops at the heart, under the plane of the existing field. The workshops are now oriented toward each other, creating a shared work area that encourages interdisciplinary work and collaboration. The rest of the campus wraps around the centralized core, forming an understated design solution. The new student center/dining hall overlooks the workshops-level addition and connects through a stair to the lower level. The school's eastward views remain unimpeded, the distant hills remain an extension of the school's field and act as a borrowed landscape for the inhabitants of this small urban site. The roofs of the workshops are transformed into a series of terraced landscapes—a favorite spot for students to gather during lunch or between classes.

Sustainable features:

☑ Natural cross ventilation is used throughout for cooling ☑ Insulated and low-E glass is used throughout ☑ All buildings utilize earth as an insulation to limit temperature swings ☑ Louvered sun control elements are utilized at appropriate façades ☑ Sustainable harvested lpe wood is used ☑ Photovoltaic panels are integrated to lower energy cost and provide a useful educational tool ☑ Systems are integrated to plan for future photovoltaic panels on various roofs ☑ Windmills along I-280 are planned to provide power to the student lounge and become an important symbol to the community of Lick-Wilmerding's interest in educating the people who will help shape our sustainable future



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1.2 Student cafeteria

3 View across field toward cafeteria