

Beacon Park Elementary

Education

Case Study



CLIENT

Beacon Park Elementary School

CHALLENGE

Build new state-of-the-art facility integrating energy-efficient natural lighting, which meets criteria developed by the Collaborative for High-Performance Schools.

RESULTS

Daylighting incorporated throughout the facility; minimal electric lighting needed during the day. The project met all criteria developed by the Collaborative for High-Performance Schools.

PRODUCT

SolaMaster 330 DS-C Daylighting Systems with Daylight Dimmers

SOLATUBE INSTALLER

Sun West Distributors

ARCHITECT

PJHM Architects

BACKGROUND: Beacon Park Elementary School is located in Irvine, California. The school opened in August 2016, under the new Education Specifications, continuing Irvine Unified's tradition of excellence of providing a state-of-the-art facility for students, family and staff.

"I would definitely recommend Solatube Daylighting Systems for a classroom environment."

- Bob Curley

Beacon Park Elementary Principal

CHALLENGE: To meet the criteria for Collaborative for High-Performance Schools, which helps establish campuses that are healthy, comfortable, energy-efficient and aligned with modern teaching and learning, the design team prioritized the incorporation of natural lighting distribution through tubular daylighting devices manufactured by Solatube International, Inc.

"Research has shown that working in natural light can make you more productive and give you an overall better sense of well-being and with utility costs constantly on the rise, new methods of natural light integration have become even more sought after," said David Bell, principal and architect with PJHM Architects. "One of the most effective solutions PJHM has found is the tubular daylighting technology of Solatube International, Inc."



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“Solatube Daylighting Systems are fantastic! The modular tubing makes it possible to distribute daylight throughout an entire school regardless of architectural design and the technology produces the highest visible transmittance of light with the lowest solar heat gain,” added Bell. “The result is ample room lighting with little-to-no rise in room temperature.”

SOLUTION: The project used Solatube 330 DS-C units with daylight dimmers, letting teachers and staff adjust room light levels simply and easily.

“The teachers love having the Solatube products with the daylight dimmers. It’s a simple switch on the wall that everyone can work,” said Ramiro Diaz, head custodian. “Plus, there are no ongoing maintenance issues to worry about.”

“I would definitely recommend Solatube Daylighting Systems for a classroom environment,” added Curley. “It is a great addition that allows the natural lighting to come in and it gives the teachers the flexibility to adjust the lighting for different activities throughout the day.”

RESULTS: Students and faculty at Beacon Park Elementary School now have a vibrant, state-of-the-art facility with abundant daylight. The concept of energy savings and sustainability are demonstrated to the students in their actual classrooms, not just in the textbooks.

Beacon Park Elementary School Principal Bob Curley, and many other educators just like him, also recognize the great benefits that natural lighting can bring to students and staff.

“Kids will walk into a room with a Solatube unit and it’s bright, and right away they click in and think; ‘I want to be here, this is going to be a great place, this is going to be a happy place.’ Having natural lighting also brightens teachers up; it makes them alert and we get the best out of our teaching staff,” said Curley.

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