BACKGROUND: Howard Norman Elementary School is a 93,000 square foot facility in Hutto, Texas, designed to serve 860 students from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. The school opened in 2016 and is the last of six elementary school campuses in the Hutto Independent School District.

CHALLENGE: The owner utilized a prototype design for Howard Norman Elementary to expedite design and construction processes in Hutto’s rapidly growing area. The prototype included many interior rooms that have no external windows, however, the owner was eager to provide natural daylight to all classrooms.

Pfluger Architects modified the design to include 80 Solatube Daylighting Systems in the classrooms and 39 Solatube Daylighting Systems in corridors and other spaces.

“The Solatube Daylighting Systems here at our school are absolutely amazing and teachers love it,” said Kanda Flores, assistant principal.

“...they bring in tons of natural daylight, save energy and they boost everyone’s mood.”
SOLUTION: Every internal classroom has four Solatube Daylighting Systems tied to one Daylight Dimmer switch to allow the rooms to be darkened when needed.

“I love having the Solatube Daylighting Systems with Daylight Dimmer in my classroom. Even on cloudy days the rooms are still bright,” said Lindsey Kosack, first grade teacher. “They are very easy to use, they help the kids focus, keeps them calm and give them energy.”

RESULTS: Staff and students at Howard Norman Elementary School now have a vibrant, state-of-the-art facility where they enjoy natural, evenly distributed light provided by the Solatube units.