

Woodstock Academy Master Plan and Science Labs Study

Woodstock, CT



Key Project Information

Project Size:	6 existing buildings, 5 proposed buildings
Market Segment:	Independent School

Educational Programming and Campus Master Planning

Woodstock Academy, an independent secondary school with a current enrollment of 1,150 students, serves as the public high school for the residents of Woodstock, CT and four surrounding towns.

In the summer of 2007, DRA was commissioned to assess the condition of their buildings and grounds and to review their educational space needs. The study included a site analysis (drainage, landscape, utilities); building data (size, type, floor plans, chronology, use); architectural issues (exterior, roof, doors, windows, interior finishes, signage, equipment, accessibility); engineering analysis (HVAC, plumbing, electrical, fire protection). Simultaneously, DRA reviewed existing space utilization and interviewed key faculty and administration personnel to develop educational program statements for both 1200 students and 800 students and to calculate educational space needs. We then built on this information to complete a master plan to serve as a tool to guide future budgeting, capital planning and strategic decision-making. The master planning process was a valuable opportunity to involve a broad cross-section of the school's stakeholders in visioning sessions and workshops.

Science Labs Study

As DRA developed the campus master plan, it became clear that the science department needs were a priority and required further in depth investigation. We held intensive programming sessions with science teachers and the department head and tested several addition/renovation and new construction options to house the science program. We presented the option of a three-story free-standing building containing 12 science labs and associated spaces.