Ideas for 21st Century Facilities

Outdoor Learning Opportunities

Design Considerations
- Take advantage of site features such as wetlands and contours.
- Provide paved exterior areas for gatherings before, during and after school.
- If fire access lanes must be paved around the building, consider alternative purposes for this pavement when not in use for vehicles.
- Provide areas that may be used for future gardens both by students and the community.

Lighting
- Include exterior security lighting with motion detectors and/or photo-cell timer for parking lots and the exterior of the building.
- Provide appropriate lighting for walkways.
- Provide lighting that is easy to maintain and secure against vandalism.

Landscaping
Create landscaped areas that are sustainable using natural rainfall and minimize use of an irrigation system where possible.
- Provide low-maintenance landscaping plantings.
- Consider outdoor spaces as an extension of the classroom and opportunities for exploration and education.
- Outdoor spaces should be student-friendly with places to rest and read, and trees for shade.
- Benches around trees can encourage students to be outdoors.
- Sufficient green space should be provided.

Playing Fields
- Baseball field
- All-weather track (if possible)
- Football/soccer field
- Band practice area (high school only)
- Storage for outdoor athletic equipment
- Fencing where appropriate
- Irrigation and lighting
- Drinking fountains