STEM INNOVATION CENTER

September 2019

Broken Arrow Public Schools

In 2015 the patrons of BA passed a 12 year, four phase bond issue that included a High School STEM Facility and a new Vocational Agricultural Facility. We are in Phase two of that bond issue.

STEM INNOVATION CENTER

BROKEN ARROW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STEM

Construction will begin this spring on our STEM Innovation Center and Vocational Agriculture Center. After the High School Configuration Study came back overwhelmingly to stay one high school and institute pathways for students, we have spent the last year meeting with a programming group of students and staff members to make sure we are meeting their needs. The marriage of the STEM facility with our Vocational Agriculture Center provides many opportunities to align the curriculum in all areas of STEM. We are designing the facility to be its own teaching tool and will include signage and "cut away" sections of the building to show students various systems.

The 80-acre site is perfect for a campus of this nature. It is located less than ¼ mile from our high school campus, has its own pond and pasture area. The facility will be embedded into the hillside and will contain a storm shelter, a green roof, an outdoor promenade, makerspace, workshop, build shop and 4 learning communities that will each have a wet lab, dry lab, offices and storage.

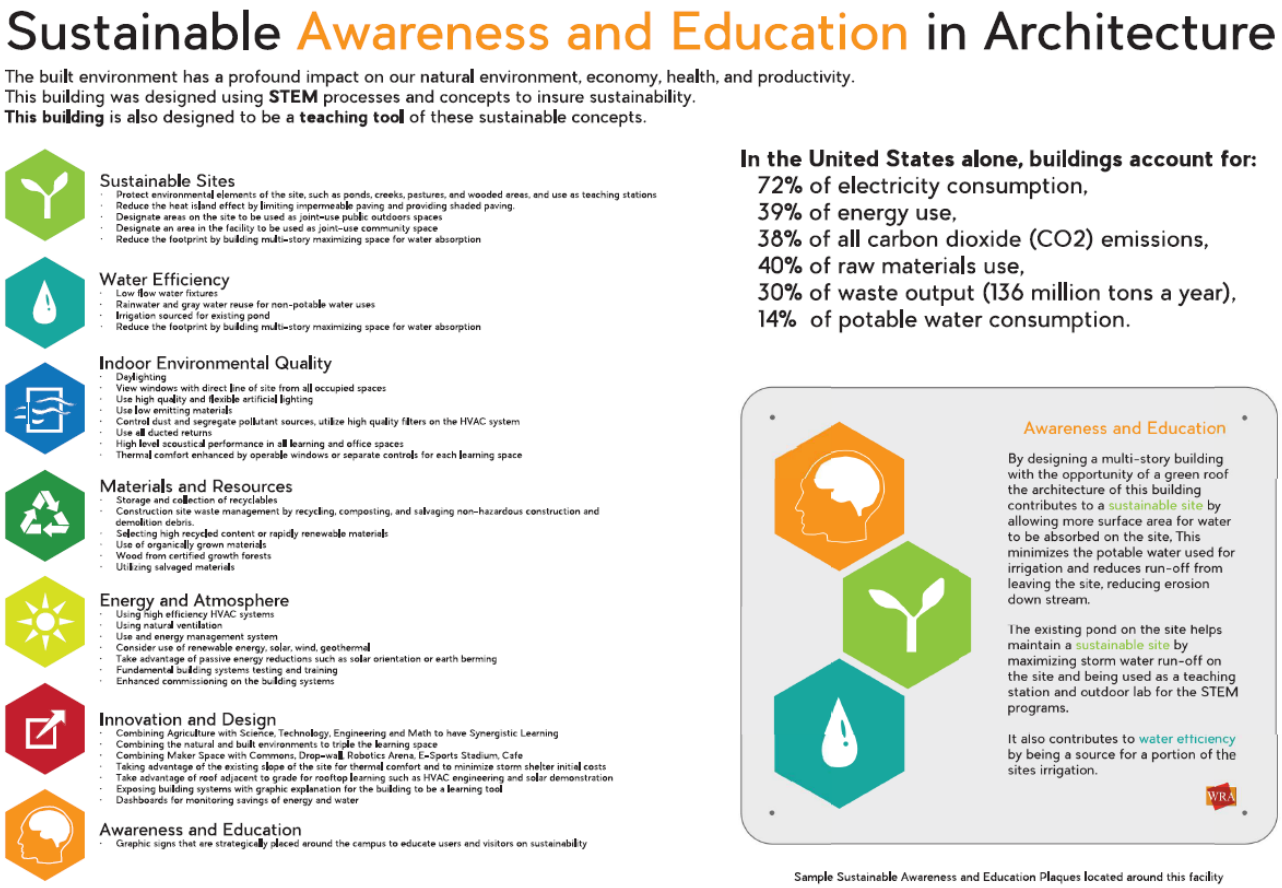
VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

Currently the District does not have their own facility for their vocational agriculture program. The current barns are owned and operated by the alumni group. The bond issue included money to build a facility for this program. They will have two show/practice arenas, pens for sheep, pigs and cows and greenhouses to support their agricultural units. They will also be able to park their trailers and equipment on the site and if they choose to, will have room to pasture their animals.

SUSTAINABILITY

The facility is being designed with Low Impact Development strategies in mind. We will be applying for The City of Broken Arrow's certification for this type of development. It is similar to a LEED certification, but without the costs associated with it. Attached to this report is an example of signage and symbols that we will locate throughout the facility to show the sustainable items that were designed into the facility.

Funding is always tight on any project, especially when we pass bonds but build several years later and then experience tariffs and fluctuation in interest rates and raw materials. We are designing with a master plan in mind and are applying for grants and seeking donations to add outdoor classroom amenities, a fishing dock, cistern, and solar energy. It is our dream to fully power the barns with solar energy. We have approached PSO/AEP and they are working with us to see if we can find a way to fund such an endeavor.



Sample Sustainable Awareness and Education Plaques located around this facility

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