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CUMBERLAND HIGH SCHOOL TO CELEBRATE COMPLETION OF \$30 MILLION RENOVATION PROJECT WITH RE-DEDICATION CEREMONY THIS SEPTEMBER

Transformation by Kaestle Boos Associates Architects Includes New Science Center, Classrooms and Cafeteria Plus More Breathing Room for Students, Teachers

Cumberland, RI – August 25, 2008 -- The \$30 million dollar Cumberland High School renovation and addition project that was completed on June 1st will be a re-dedicated at a ceremony slated for September 27, 2008. Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. designed both the renovations to upgrade the facility in Cumberland, RI and improve the circulation of students and teachers inside and out of the building, plus the addition of a new Science Wing with modern laboratory/classrooms. The building also boasts an expanded and renovated cafeteria that will provide a modern serving facility and additional seating, renovated classrooms and improvements made to meet current Code.

Part of Cumberland's CHS-2010 plan, a town initiative to expand and improve facilities at Cumberland High School as well as address the deferred maintenance needs of the 40-year old facility, construction was completed in phases to minimize the impact on students and staff. Phase One of the Three-Phase Project entailed converting the old gymnasium into a new Visual and Performing arts wing. Phase Two involved building the new Science Wing and the cafeteria expansion, while Phase Three upgraded classrooms, corridors, common and the main lobby.

"The essence of what we did architecturally was to bring order out of chaos," said Michael McKeon, AIA, LEED AP, Principal-in-Charge and Project Architect. "We used the new science wing as a bridge to the former ninth grade annex and added connections between isolated areas making the flow of students and staff more logical and safe." McKeon described a scenario in which one area of the building had extraordinarily cumbersome access to another; kids had to hike up and down a flight of stairs before they could access a connecting building; there was no direct route. "You can imagine the congestion that this would cause both in terms of general flow as well as safety," McKeon said. "Now that's all been solved through the effective use of space and design."

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The additions on the building amounted to approximately 40,000 square feet. The renovation portion of the project totaled 240,000 square feet. Total project square footage: 280,000.

In addition to McKeon, Kaestle Boos' Project Team for Cumberland High School includes: Todd Costa, Architectural Job Captain; Kristen Smith, Interior Design and David McKinley, Landscape Architect. Garcia Galuska DeSousa, Inc. was responsible for mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering. The Construction Manager for the project was Dimeo Construction Company.

More details on September's Cumberland High School Re-Dedication Ceremony will be forthcoming.

Photos available upon request.

About Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc.

Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. is one of New England's most experienced architectural design firms with offices in New Britain, Connecticut, Foxborough, Massachusetts, and Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The firm specializes in educational, public safety, theater arts, parks and recreation and other public architecture. Founded in 1963, the firm's ultimate goal is to create structures that are functional, aesthetically pleasing, environmentally sound, and economically justifiable. For more information visit www.kba-architects.com or call (860) 229-0361.

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