

Sandia High School



CLIENT: Albuquerque Public Schools

The Sandia High School Science Academy and Library exemplifies a learning concept that APS has been incorporating into their school designs and rehabilitation. This project included a sports field, a landscaped mall connecting the new buildings to the rest of the campus and a very large wetland, which is the focal point of the Science Academy.

The sports field design includes a baseball diamond, an outdoor gathering area and connective walkways. The center of the new campus includes walkways, seating areas, student gathering points and a landscape that ties into the wetland. The wetland and surrounding landscape functions as a learning laboratory. The landscape includes elements from the Sandia Mountain foothills and the Rio Grande Valley. The landscape incorporates outdoor biological classrooms, reused dimension cut concrete and a cistern to feed the wetland. The wetland has three distinct environments including aquatic plants from various landscapes. Learning greenhouses and vegetable gardens complete the learning facility. Sites Southwest worked closely with the school's biology teacher on this project.

