

Alcy Elementary 21st Century School Memphis, Tennessee



FISHER ARNOLD

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Alcy Elementary was the second school developed by Fisher Arnold to showcase the new 21st Century concept for Shelby County Schools. This facility came with several challenges which required our design team to completely change the prototype footprints we had developed for the new Parkway Village Elementary, the first 21st Century School which had opened in January 2020, and adapt the facility to fit the proposed site. The building design accounted for an approximate 30' change in site elevation from front to back of the site while being located on a smaller, approximately 10 acre site. In addition, the building required the existing Alcy Elementary school facility to be demolished from the site before construction could start. The new Alcy Elementary campus opened its doors to students in March 2021.

The 21st Century curriculum is considerably different from the typical educational environment. The buildings incorporate expanded instructional and interactive spaces outside the classrooms, and even the outdoors are programmed as learning areas. Natural lighting, colorful materials, interior windows, and expanded volumes with innovative features provide varied and unusual spaces that can be utilized by the staff and students in creative ways while maintaining a well-organized layout in a structured environment. With a focus on integrating technology into instruction, wireless data connectivity is utilized throughout the campuses in order to support the use of personal mobile devices like laptop and tablet computers.

