

# SKETCH

## | staff |

- Congratulations to Jenny Alvarez, LEED AP, and Omari A. Davis, LEED AP, who are newly registered architects.

Ms. Alvarez began working for Samaha in 2012. She holds a Master of Architecture from the University of South Florida.

Mr. Davis originally started working with Samaha after receiving his Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University and returned to our firm after receiving his Master of City Planning from MIT.

## | service |

# EXPANDING OUR INTERIORS

## *A New Challenge*



Montgomery Street Lobby



Congressional Schools of Virginia

Samaha continues to expand our interior design services throughout the region under the leadership of Candace Litchford, IIDA, LEED AP.

For K-12 clients we are discussing new trends in learning to create a variety of spaces that support different learning styles. Furniture, fixtures, and equipment are designed to support learning while being ergonomic, flexible, and functional. We are modernizing Congressional Schools' existing Library/Media Center for 21st century learners. We designed an invigorating space rich in color

and textures that successfully integrates new technologies enhancing the overall learning experience.

We continue to develop and expand our commercial interiors. From tenant fit-outs, base building lobbies, branding, and offices to FF&E packages for several fire stations, our interiors department continues to grow.

## | presentations |

- Paul Falkenbury, AIA, REFP presented "A Collaborative Process" with Dr. Christine Handy of Gaithersburg High School, Todd Ward of Hess Construction, and Debbie Szyfer of Montgomery County Public Schools Division of Long Range Planning at ASBO's Spring Conference. The purpose was to discuss the benefits of a collaborative process during the planning, design, and construction of the recently completed LEED Gold certified Gaithersburg High School.

## | design |

# BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE MS #2

## *Innovative Middle School Design*

The new four-story school is organized around a courtyard that provides natural light to interior classrooms, locker pods, and support spaces. Designed for a capacity of 944 and a core of 1,200 students, the new school provides much needed classroom space in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase cluster.

The 13 acre site for Bethesda-Chevy Chase Middle School #2 is steeply sloped, heavily wooded, and adjacent to a protected stream buffer. Samaha tucked the structure into the slope, reducing its mass. Designed to minimize its footprint and impact on trees, activity spaces such as the gymnasium, multi-purpose room, kitchen, and building support spaces are stacked and organized along an activity "street". The main entrance is located on the



lower level with the activity entrance on the main level, which provides direct access to the gymnasium. Designed to meet LEED Silver certification, the 165,000 SF school is under construction and scheduled to open in August, 2017.

**Construction Cost:** \$47,916,000

| success |

# GOOD BEGINNINGS

*Educating the Whole Child*



The new 13,800 SF facility provides a much needed pre-school in the growing Stone Ridge area of Loudoun County. The classrooms are organized in 'T' shape with support and activity spaces anchoring the classrooms to form an 'H' shape. At the intersection of the corridors a cupola marks the entrance and provides a beacon to passersby. Each classroom is equipped with a variety of learning centers including a reading nook with abundant natural light and direct access to the outdoor play areas. At the center of the activity spaces is a multi-purpose room with a stage for large group instruction, plays, and indoor activities. A pool is included to teach children the benefits of swimming and physical activity in support of Good Beginnings practice of educating the whole child.

Construction Cost: \$2,400,000



| website |

- Please visit our newly updated website at [www.samaha-arch.com](http://www.samaha-arch.com)

| awards |

- 2015 - Signatures of Loudoun Design Excellence Program - Legends Award for Mt. Zion Church

| sustainability |

- We are proud to announce that Gaithersburgh High School, a 415,000 SF replacement school in Montgomery County has achieved LEED Gold Certification

| joining the team |

- **Heather Furman:** Graduated from Marymount University with a Bachelor of Interior Design in 2015.
- **Jhoel Prewendido:** Graduated from the Savannah College of Art + Design with a Master of Architecture in 2015.
- **Randal H. Beard, AIA:** Brings more than 27 years of architectural experience to Samaha.

| cross-agency work group |

Paul Falkenburg, AIA, REFP participated in a cross agency work group with Montgomery County Public Schools, the Cities of Gaithersburg and Rockville, the Montgomery County Council, the Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, the Maryland State Department of Education, County Office of Budget, Management and General Services, and County planning officials. Work group members addressed the increasing difficulty of finding school sites large enough for the traditional school model as the population of Montgomery County grows and the area becomes more urbanized. Innovative options included the use of commercial and industrial sites, building schools on small sites, co-locating schools with community centers, parks, and libraries, and developing specialty schools that would be smaller than comprehensive schools.



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