

# SKETCH

service

# Creating a new prototype for Fairfax County Public Schools

Northwest County Elementary School

Samaha recently completed the design of the new prototype elementary school for Fairfax County Public Schools. The threestory, 105,652 SF building is designed for 750 students with a core capacity of 1,194. The first iteration of the prototype will be located adjacent to McNair Elementary School and will house grades four through six to relieve crowding.

Samaha worked collaboratively with Fairfax County Public Schools to design three- and four-story prototype options to minimize footprint while maintaining functionality, security, and circulation. As property becomes scarcer in Fairfax, schools must occupy smaller sites. In order to maximize play fields, outdoor learning, and bus loading separate from student drop-off and staff parking, schools must expand vertically. At the new Northwest County Elementary School Samaha designed a school that separates academic and activity spaces for community use by stacking the gymnasium over the cafeteria.



#### success

# A 21st century fire station in Prince William County

Prince William Count Fire Station #26

Prince William County Fire Station #26 is a two-story facility designed on a tight site to maximize space and minimize needed site area. The design incorporates mechanical mezzanines and systems that do not require floor area. This design meets all of the fire and rescue station's programmatic needs within the budget and programmed area. The design process included public

presentations and compatibility with the adjacent police station. Samaha's 3D modeling of concept designs was critical in clearly conveying the design ideas about space, mass, context, proportion, and materiality to the stakeholders. This station is seeking LEED Gold certification.





## community



Heather Furman & Kenneth J. Cahoon, AIA, LEED AP: Samaha's fearless Cosmo Couture

# design

# **Unveiling a new school for Montgomery County**

Silver Creek Middle School

The new Silver Creek Middle School represents the evolution of middle school design from a suburban to an urban model. This 165,000 SF building is the first four-story school in Montgomery County. Designed to accommodate 930 students with a core capacity of 1,200, the structure sits on a 13 acre, steeply sloping site.

To take advantage of the slope and reduce mass, the school is tucked into the hillside with entrances on two levels. Activity spaces are stacked vertically and academic spaces are organized by grade level around a learning courtyard. The small footprint enables the design team to preserve mature trees that act as a buffer and soften the mass.

The main entrance on the lower level allows supervision of parking and student drop-off. The activities entrance doubles as bus loading and is supervised by the security office.

This projected LEED Gold building gets its heating and cooling from a hybrid geothermal heat exchange system with Energy Recovery Units (ERU) providing fresh air. The roof is 100% vegetated, reducing the heat island effect. Stormwater management is designed to retain the run-off from a 10 year storm. The school opened to a welcoming group of students and staff in August, 2017



#### Main Entrance



**Lobby** 



∧ Aerial



# joining the team



Mahamudul Hasan Asif joins the Samaha team as a 2017 graduate from the Masters of Architecture program at the University of Texas, San Antonio.



Arielannia Walker joins our firm after graduating from the Savannah College of Art + Design in 2016.

# | intern |



Eric Cho is interning with Samaha while studying architecture at the University of Maryland.

## accreditation

 Congratulations to Kyle Lee, who is now a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP) for Building Design and Construction.

#### presentations

F. Thomas Lee, AIA, LEED AP, ICC presented When to Go Vertical:

Multi-Story Fire Stations at the Fire Industry Education Resource Organization (FIERO) 2017 Fire Station Design Symposium.