



Historic D.C. school modernization project nearing completion

Published on **9 May 2013**

Written by [Jenny Wiedower](#)

Posted in [Center for Green Schools](#)



Last month, members of the [Center for Green Schools team](#) had the opportunity to take a hard-hat tour of 100-year old [Cardozo High School](#) in Washington, D.C., which is undergoing renovation as part of the D.C. Education Reform Act of 2007. When the school reopens in August for the 2013-14 academic year, it will feature larger, reconfigured and technologically updated classrooms, a new gym and central staircase, two enclosed courtyards used as a cafeteria and a refurbished auditorium. This beautiful school, listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#) and located in the Columbia Heights neighborhood of Northwest D.C., has played a significant role in the history of D.C.'s integration of schools.

District of Columbia Public Schools lead the way nationally with their sustainability efforts to ensure students have healthy, efficient and safe learning spaces. Every modernized school must meet a minimum of LEED Silver certification. [Learn more about Cardozo and other modernized DCPS schools »](#)



Jenny Wiedower

K12 Manager, The Center for Green Schools
U.S. Green Building Council



Member employees, USGBC staff

1 comment

[Leave a comment](#)



Jesse Robbins

Architect, Freeman French Freeman, Inc

3 weeks 6 days ago

When I lived in DC in 1999-2000, I used to pass the what I thought was the abandoned Hardy Middle School on Wisconsin & 34th NW when walking to the "Social Safeway" on the other side of Wisconsin Avenue. One day when home sick I walked by on the way to my doctors office and was absolutely shocked to see that the school was actually serving students. The windows were boarded up, the doors had chains on them. The building was an eyesore on the fringe of the pricey Georgetown neighborhood and I just couldn't believe that children were trying to learn in that environment. Now, Hardy is among the handsomely upgraded schools. Kudos to DC for a much more effective municipal government and for setting- and meeting- a high standard for school improvements. I wish I

had a "before"

picture to compare with the current appearance of that school, it would just blow you away...

Leave a comment

Don't have an account? [Create one](#)

You must be signed in to leave a comment.

Email

Password

SIGN IN