

APTOS MIDDLE SCHOOL MODERNIZATION SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
San Francisco, California



Design Features

- Modernization for Accessibility & Life Safety
- Phased, Occupied Construction
- Addition of Elevator & Chair Lifts
- Addition of Accessible Garden
- New Food Service Facility
- Custom Graphic Signage

Size: 146,226 SF

Budget: \$14 Million

Completion: December 2010

Originally constructed in 1931, Aptos Middle School is located in San Francisco's Ingleside District. The facility houses nearly 1,200 students in pre-school and grades 6-8. The campus is undergoing modernizations for accessibility access compliance and fire life safety.

Aptos Middle School shares its facilities with an onsite Child Development Center. The design for safe and separate direct exiting of the pre-school students is integrated into the site improvements. Utilizing the level paving needed for exiting, K2A was able to include a garden and playground upgrades.

The new front entry is redesigned to be fully accessible, and includes a new plaza and landscaping. This modernization also includes a newly designed food service facility, and custom graphic way finding signage throughout the site. Interior upgrades include new custom flooring and painting design. The art deco theater is being restored to bring out the historical elements of the molding and trim with a three-color paint scheme.

This project is locally funded, as a Part of SFUSD's Bond Measure A projects, along with Downtown High School, Burnett Child Development Center, Spring Valley Elementary and Francis Scott Key Elementary. The main focuses are renovations for accessibility compliance, ADA and Title 24, and fire life safety upgrades. The bond projects were sparked due to an accessibility lawsuit; each project is carefully monitored under the jurisdiction of the courts.

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Walkway and Community Garden

The new, fully accessible walkway is designed to not only provide a clear path of entry into the building, but serves as a place to meet and socialize. The lush landscaping creates a welcoming experience for visitors to the school.

A fully accessible garden was created at the South entry, utilizing raised planter boxes, wide walkways, and ramps to provide circulation throughout. In order to reduce water consumption, a drip irrigation system, inclusion of native California and drought tolerant trees and plants, and wood mulch surround the curriculum garden. Pathways and engineered concrete block walls around planter beds all contain recycled content.

As part of the curriculum, students have an opportunity to learn gardening in an urban environment, tending to vegetables in the planters.



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Main Lobby Entrance and Library

At the main entrance to the school, the new door and ramp are designed to fit seamlessly with the existing art deco detailing and the tiled wainscoting. The historic teal pattern of the tile was extended from the existing wall to the new ramp.

The addition of the ramp opens up the space to allow more natural light to enter and improves air circulation. New ceiling tiles and light fixtures were installed.

Offices located at the main entrance were relocated and renovated for universal accessibility.

The library was outfitted with a new reception desk. Shelving and community desks were arranged to maximize circulation within the space and provide students the space to work collaboratively.



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Accessible Auditorium

The new accessible ramp, providing entry to the auditorium lobby, is designed to compliment the existing wall tiles. A custom color palette for the lobby and interior of the auditorium was developed to accent the historic Art Deco details and unique tile patterns.

Inside the auditorium, three sets of accessible seating were added, as well as semi-ambulatory seating. New paint was applied to the interior walls and stage, as well as accents that highlight the architectural details. The auditorium floor was replaced, and the existing stage floor was refinished.

The existing stage drapes were cleaned and reinstalled. A back of stage curtain was added to cover the wall and utility fixtures, and allow actors and stage crew to move about backstage without disrupting a performance.

