

Well Schooled

We discover how students learn, where they study, and what resources they need to successfully advance to the next level. We discover how educators teach, what tools they need to be more effective, and how they use labs. We discover how administrators serve students and faculty, respond to emergencies, and incorporate branding across the campus. We discover innovative technologies and resources that help you achieve your mission. Through a structured discovery process, we learn many things while working on projects for our education clients. None more important than how to provide design solutions on-time and on-budget, best serving the needs of your constituents.

At JSA, we focus on working with colleges, universities, trade schools and specialized K-12 schools. Our portfolio includes designs for new buildings, renovations, and additions for prominent institutions like the University of Pittsburgh (a large research university that ranks ninth in the nation in NIH-funding) and Carnegie Mellon University (a private school in Pittsburgh recognized by U.S. & World Report as one of the best schools in the country). And our imprint can be seen in nearly every corner of a campus — from

classrooms to study lounges to administrative offices to steam plants.

Education projects present a unique set of challenges. Because of the many different decision-makers involved, knowing how to navigate this intricate landscape is essential to a project's success. It'd be a stretch to say we're experts at this. Each project is usually so different from the last that it would be difficult for any firm to perfect this skill. But based on the number of repeat commissions we've received, we've proven our talent and ability to deliver at any level.

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JSA has also demonstrated an ability to be a team player. Education clients often prefer to spread the wealth when it comes to projects, and divvy up pieces to various firms. Knowing how to coordinate plans with other firms, therefore, goes a long way towards reaching — and hopefully exceeding — our client's goals. So we work with all parties to make sure the right hands knows what the left hand is designing.

It's the same approach we take internally. As a single-source firm, we have architects, planners, engineers and interior designers working on project teams every day. In order for us to be successful, we must share ideas and solve problems together — which goes a long way toward helping us build long-term relationships with our clients, a goal on any project. Considering that repeat clients account for more than 80 percent of our annual commissions, we're moving where we want to go — to the head of the class. ●

