



NEW BUILDING UPDATE

February 26, 2016

On Monday, February 22, a team of representatives from Reading School Board, administration, and OFCC interviewed the three architectural firms that were finalists for our new school project. The team selected VSWC Architects, Inc. (previously Voorhis, Slone, Welsh and Crossland) located in Mason, Ohio. VSWC is a medium-sized, full-service architecture firm that started designing schools 60 years ago, and has been involved in school projects every year since. They have worked on 23 OSFC and OFCC co-funded projects.

Since 2008, VSWC also worked with Reading Schools in developing the Master Facility Plan along with small projects on our existing facilities. In 2013 and 2014, they led community meetings in Reading about the proposed school and developed the initial concept drawing of a single PK-12 building.

Here are some of VSWC's local new construction and addition/renovation projects:

Blanchester High School • Blanchester Middle School • Blanchester Putman Elementary School • Lebanon Bowman Elementary School • Mason Intermediate School Additions and Renovations • CPS Taft Information Technology High School (LEED® Platinum) • CPS Aiken High School (LEED® Gold) • CPS Shroder High School • CPS John P. Parker Elementary School • CPS Midway Elementary School • Mason High School and Additions • Mason Early Childhood Center • Milford McCormick Elementary School • Milford Mulberry Elementary School • Milford Pattison Elementary School • Milford Meadowview Elementary School • Little Miami Intermediate School

"What set VSWC apart is the personal involvement of the Principal Firm Owners in daily project work, communications and decisions," said Reading Superintendent, Dr. Joel Anderson.

Another benefit of VSWC is their collaborative approach to building projects.

"We believe that the best buildings result from collaboration with end-users and stake holders in the design process. The better we understand your needs and the better we hear your feedback (both positive and negative), the better the ultimate design will be and the happier you will be with the final product," said Jim Voorhis, VSWC Principal-in-Charge, Project Management Lead. "We design the project by listening to your input, generating multiple options, discussing their pros and cons with you and building consensus around a preferred solution."

For the past 20 years, VSWC Architects has been designing technology-rich schools with small learning communities, extended learning areas, flexible instructional areas, adaptable project labs, small group rooms, individual work stations and outdoor education spaces that anticipate and support this change.

VSWC comes highly recommended from schools throughout the state.

"Through each phase of our construction project, the VSWC team exceeded our expectations in planning, designing, bidding and construction. They have also involved our community, teachers, and administrators in this project to build great buildings for our children. Their ability to process feedback from our project teams and include in the final product, gives our building a uniqueness that represents our priorities and focuses on the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century student," said Ashland City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Douglas Marrah.

To learn more about VSWC and see examples of their design work, go to [www.vswc.com](http://www.vswc.com).

### **Save the Dates-Community Meetings on Transition Spaces**

Some students will need to be relocated during the construction phase. Much consideration and discussion has taken place about the transition spaces. Each age group will be affected differently so we will have meetings at each school. Please note: these meetings are about the transition only, not the new school.

### **Transition Meetings:**

**March 22 - Reading High School at 6:30 p.m.**

**March 22 - Hilltop at 7:30 p.m.**

**March 23 - RMS at 6:30 p.m.**

**March 23- Central at 7:30 p.m.**

### **Spread the Word**

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