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## **BALTIMORE'S 21ST CENTURY SCHOOL REVITALIZATION PROGRAM IS IN FULL-SWING: FREDERICK ELEMENTARY AMONG THE FIRST TO OPEN ITS DOORS**

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The newly constructed, Frederick Elementary School, opening just in time for the 2017-2018 school year, is among the first renovated and expanded schools designed and constructed in over a decade. Under the City of Baltimore's new building initiative, known as the 21st Century School Construction and Revitalization Program, USA Architects was commissioned for the \$23 million project pioneering future educational facility design within the City. The firm has also been involved in similar multi-billion dollar initiatives put forth by the City of Philadelphia and the New Jersey Schools Development Authority.

"We are at the cusp of new development..." said Paul Swartz, CEO of USA Architects. "We're delivering on higher levels of expectation; and therefore pushing the boundaries of possibilities for students and the community. This project brings hope to the future of young learners in the City of Baltimore and we're honored to be a part of this transformative revitalization for the community."

Manifesting a facility that seamlessly responds to 21st century curricula can be challenging due to unforeseen consequences in new policy development and various stakeholder expectations. Designer Carlos Tovar and Construction Administrator Tim Schell, teamed up with the community to discover more possibilities toward the function and flexibility of the facility and implemented ideas to lessen the impact of construction activities on site.

The renovated portion and new addition of the Frederick Elementary School features flexible spaces and meets high standards of sustainability. The combined renovation and addition includes 84,000 SF to accommodate over 500 students in a bright and modern learning environment. Through a partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department, 3,000 SF of indoor and outdoor space is designated for community use.

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*Founded in 1985, USA inspires community—designing schools, offices, or other public spaces, the company strives to create impactful spaces where people learn, work, and govern. USA Architects is an award winning mid-size architecture firm with locations in Somerville, NJ Philadelphia, PA and Easton, PA. The company offers architectural, interior and planning services in diverse project types across several market segments. (Government, Justice, K-12, Higher Ed, Science and Technology, Commercial and Corporate)*

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