



NORMANDY SCHOOL DISTRICT - BARACK OBAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

KWAME has completed work on the new 65,000-square-foot Barack Obama Elementary School in Pine Lawn, Missouri (St. Louis County).

"This new, modern facility will assist teachers in providing the 21st century education our children need and deserve," said Dr. Stanton Lawrence, Normandy's superintendent of schools. The school was named by students from Garfield Elementary and Pine Lawn Elementary Schools, which the new school replaces.

The state-of-the-art school, funded through a portion of a \$23 million, no-tax increase bond issue, features a two-story classroom wing with 26 classrooms to accommodate up to 400 students. Kindergarten through second grades are on the ground floor with direct access to an outdoor classroom and playground. Third through sixth grades, two science labs and an art studio are on the second floor. Special education spaces are provided on both floors. Students will receive music education in a vocal rehearsal room and a band room with an operable wall that opens to the cafetorium (a combined cafeteria and auditorium) for performances.

The community will be invited to use the school's ADA accessible cafetorium, library, gymnasium, computer lab and meeting rooms, which are located at the front of the school for convenient access from parking and drop-off areas. The cafetorium will host large community banquets, meetings, dances, and musical and dramatic performances. The library will provide a quiet location for small to medium sized meetings. The gymnasium is equipped with a basketball court and volleyball court, and a 30-station computer lab will be available for adult education or other programs developed by the district and local community organizations.

Architectural features include a two-story lobby and a main corridor with clerestory glass that floods the hallways and classrooms with natural light, known to stimulate brain development in young children.

Completion Date: 2011

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