

School Design and Green Schools: High-Performance Education



Modern academic facilities face two unique design and construction challenges: Their designs must embrace sustainability and collaboration, and their structures must be built to last a century. *American School & University's* March issue features [an article on using sustainable technologies](#) to help further these facilities' energy efficiency.

The feature, contributed by Marcus Yakren, PE, LEED AP, and senior vice president/managing director for Syska Hennessy Group, Inc., New York City, lists and describes what technologies, schools can use in building design. For example, his No. 1 technology suggestion is high-performance building envelopes (outside walls). An energy-efficient building envelope will consist of good-quality insulation, exterior solar-control features and high-quality glazing.

He also covers lighting, HVAC and management systems. A sidebar features New York's Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, which is equipped with state-of-the-art academic laboratories, studios, classrooms, science, research and public spaces. It is the first academic building in the city to receive LEED platinum certification.

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