

# LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 6TH-8TH GRADE

Total Area: 107,899 sq. ft.  
Student Capacity: 525  
Completion: 2010

Lincoln Middle School was designed with an emphasis on the environment. Solar shading and a green rooftop classroom that extends from the media center are examples of the school's healthy earth theme. The secure rooftop offers a flexible outdoor space for a variety of activities and engagement for middle schoolers.

Lincoln's vertically organized design provides each of the three grade levels its own floor and dedicated commons area with soft, moveable furniture for a variety of instructional opportunities. Students spill out from their classrooms into "team living rooms," where they solve problems together, discuss, and form small groups. Students take on more responsibility for their own learning at this developmental stage and the 21st-century learning environment facilitates this growth.

Each living room extends to an additional outside area or balcony, providing outdoor space for students' project work, reading and social interactions. Teacher workspaces and student breakout rooms are transparent, offering natural light and emphasizes collaboration and a sense of family or team.

Classrooms and science labs were designed to support the middle school's team teaching practices, and are versatile and flexible, with retractable walls that can be configured easily depending on the mode of teaching and learning, accommodating large or small group instruction. Students are encouraged to explore, create and move with state-of-the-art band and music rooms, an art room, and fitness room, which is an important part of LMS's wellness program.

The large, open area that is filled with natural light and windows and is the center of the school is known as the "wow" space, which is used for both school and community gatherings. The theater and cafeteria are also large gathering spaces used by the entire district and community organizations. District 81 will use grant funding to make improvements to Lincoln's outdoor field this spring, offering the school and community extended use for sports activities throughout the year.

We hope you enjoyed reading about each of our three 21st-century schools! District 81 offers deep gratitude to the Board of Education for its vision to bring equity across District 81, and to the community for supporting this vision. We have begun tracking how our 21st-century, modernized schools are impacting student achievement. We look forward to seeing you in the fall. Until then, please go to [www.sd81.org](http://www.sd81.org) for more pictures and details.



*Green Roof Terrace*



*Team Living Room*



*"Wow" Gathering Space*