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Skyline High School - Recognition Continues

LANSING, MI – Ann Arbor's new Skyline High School continues to collect industry awards and recognitions for excellence and promises to serve as a model for similar projects across the country.

To date, the new 381,000 SF., \$85 million high school, completed in May of 2008, has garnered four major honors including recently being named one of four recipients of the Engineering Society of Detroit's (ESD) prestigious 2009 Design and Construction Award based, in part, on effective teaming between the owner, Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS), the design team, TMP Associates of Bloomfield Hills and Mitchell/Mouat Architects of Ann Arbor, the engineering firm, Peter Basso Associates of Troy, and the construction management firm, Granger Construction of Lansing.

Additional criteria included the quality of the overall design and construction, unique and innovative engineering solutions and construction techniques, a sustainable design for the future, sensitivity to land use and the project's social and economic significance. The award will be presented on June 25, 2009, at ESD's 35th Annual Awards program to be held at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn.

Other awards the project has received include Associated General Contractors of Michigan's 2009 Build Michigan Award, the Washtenaw Contractors Association's 2009 Pyramid Award and LEED Silver Certification from the United States Green Building Council.

Some of the project's unique challenges included installing one of the country's largest horizontal geothermal fields comprised of over 80 miles of underground piping, constructing three traffic roundabouts within close proximity to M-14's exit and entrance ramps, minimizing adverse effects to the site's pristine environment, awarding 75% of the work to local contractors and assisting the school district in annexing three parcels of property in order to extend utilities to the site.

The project will be featured in the July edition of Construction Association of Michigan's magazine as well as in the National School Board Association's upcoming annual *Learning by Design* publication.

"We had a great project and great team members who made it all possible," says AAPS superintendent Dr. Todd Roberts, "and we're delighted that everyone is being duly recognized for their efforts in its overall success, including the residents of our school district who made it all possible."

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