



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jody Elam-Foote
ATS&R Planners/Architects/Engineers
763.525.3209/F 763.525.3289
Email: jelamfoote@atsr.com

Adult Education Center Featured in Architectural Portfolio Honoring Education Design Excellence



Minneapolis, MN – February 10, 2010 – ATS&R Planners/ Architects/ Engineers announces that the Adult Education Center for Osseo Area Public Schools in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota was selected for publication in Penton Media’s *American School & University* 2009 Architectural Portfolio. The project was featured in the November 2009 edition of the magazine and on the web at www.schooldesigns.com. An annual competition honoring design excellence, the Architectural Portfolio spotlights projects representing some of the most effective learning environments in America.

A jury of American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Education members and education administrators evaluated submissions from architectural firms, schools, and universities across the country. The jury considered the following specific criteria to make its selections: designs should meet stated goals; design should enhance learning by inspiring creativity, fostering and promotion collaboration, and integrating curriculum; designs should be functional, considering flexibility, community use, security, community, technology, social spaces and outdoor connectivity; and designs should be sustainable.

The Adult Education Center promotes General Educational Development (GED) achievement through academic and English language instruction to adult learners in the northwestern suburban and surrounding areas of the Twin Cities. Planning is underway for an expansion that will provide county and non-profit human services as a “one stop” service center.

Clear and safe traffic patterns were created to provide welcoming drop-off areas and entries for pedestrians, bus riders, and drivers. The use of daylight, warm colors, and the patterns on the floors and walls make the center feel welcoming. The 25,500 square foot facility houses 14 classrooms, a large community room, two computer labs, two shared conference rooms, a lunch room with partitioning capabilities, and a teacher prep area and staff lounge. The center serves as home to 1,300 adult students and 40 Osseo Area Schools’ staff.

ATS&R is an architecture and engineering firm specializing in educational facility design since 1944. The firm’s services include architecture, educational facility planning, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, interior design, technology, site development, field administration and total energy analysis/modeling.