The Willow School’s Health, Wellness, and Nutrition Center is a 20,000 square foot building that sets new standards for green building design. Within these walls, and the gardens and grounds beyond them, students develop the new skills and habits of mind necessary for success and resilience in our ever-changing, information-rich world where the inextricable link between human virtue and ecology comes to life. In the Energy Gallery, for instance, students gauge real-time energy usage of the heating and cooling system, the lights, or the kitchen equipment. Water use is tracked through its entire cycle — captured as rainwater, filtered and treated by ultraviolet light for use in the bathrooms to flush toilets, and used to irrigate the gardens and grounds. In this innovative building, students understand that we are all part of a complex matrix of interdependent living systems. This is a new way of thinking: we do not stand apart from nature; we are an integral part of nature, participating and co-evolving with and alongside natural systems. Consequently the project is currently in pursuit of the Living Building Challenge.

Learn more at sevengroup.com

THANKS FOR CHECKING IT OUT

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