

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PERKINS EASTMAN CELEBRATES TOPPING OUT AT PONUS RIDGE STEAM SCHOOL IN NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

### Expansion and Renovation Will Create New STEAM School

Perkins Eastman  
Architects DPC



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Stamford, CT (May 31, 2019) The Stamford office of top international design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman congratulates the City of Norwalk, Connecticut, and Norwalk Public Schools on the recent topping out of the expansion at Ponus Ridge STEAM School. Designed by Perkins Eastman, the 41,000 sf addition is the first phase of a larger project that will also include renovations to the existing middle school facility, originally built in 1956 and with major additions in 1976. Once complete, the 140,000 sf Ponus Ridge STEAM School will accommodate 1,050 students in Pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The project is expected to be complete in time for the 2020-2021 school year.

Perkins Eastman's Joseph Costa AIA, LEED AP, Principal-in-Charge of the project, says: "Perkins Eastman is thrilled to be designing the breakthrough Ponus Ridge STEAM School project for Norwalk Public Schools. Combining leading educational technologies with beautiful, purpose-built settings provides NPS with an exceptional learning and teaching environment."

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As a STEAM school, Ponus Ridge's curriculum will feature an interdisciplinary approach to learning where academic concepts will be coupled with real-world lessons, teaching students to apply science, engineering, art, and mathematics in a technology-rich environment.

Comprising grades Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade, the Lower School will occupy the addition, which will include a separate entry, an enclosed exterior courtyard, and new outdoor play areas.

The Upper School, comprising 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades, will occupy the existing building that will be renovated, transforming the current secondary gym into a Maker Space in the process.

The Lower and Upper Schools will share the use of a purpose-built Math Lab, the first of its kind on the east coast, which will open up to an additional enclosed courtyard. The Schools will also share expanded and improved common spaces such as the gym, cafeteria, auditorium, music, and art rooms.

The new Ponus Ridge STEAM School, an intra-district magnet school, is part of the district's School Building Program. It meets Connecticut High Performance Standards and Connecticut Security Council Guidelines.

#### **About Perkins Eastman**

Perkins Eastman is a global design firm founded on the belief that design can have a direct and positive impact on people's lives. The firm's award-winning practice draws on its more than 1,000 professionals networked across 17 offices worldwide. The firm enhances the human experience in the places where people live, work, play, learn, age, and heal. Perkins Eastman's portfolio comprises work in a wide range of specialized project types: Primary & Secondary Education, Higher Education, Science & Technology, Healthcare, Civic & Cultural, Hospitality, Large Scale Mixed-Use, Office & Retail, Planning & Urban Design, Residential, Senior Living, Sports & Exhibition, Transportation & Infrastructure, and Workplace. For more information visit [perkinseastman.com](http://perkinseastman.com)

Renderings available.

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