

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FANNING HOWEY IN THE “LEED”

Celina, OH (02/04/08) – The Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) has adopted the LEED® for Schools Green Building Rating System™ as part of its school design standards. Created by the non-profit U.S. Green Building Council, LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a widely used benchmark for the design and construction of energy efficient and environmentally conscious buildings.

All future OSFC-funded buildings will strive for the LEED® Gold level and be required to meet LEED® Silver certification for environmental-conscious design with an emphasis in the energy and atmosphere category. LEED® certification has four progressive levels – Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. The level of certification depends on the number of criteria that are met during the design and construction of a building. Under the Commission’s green schools initiative, all future OSFC-funded buildings will be encouraged to meet LEED® for Schools Gold certification. There is a minimum requirement to meet LEED® Silver certification with a preferred investment in attaining Gold level points in the energy and atmosphere category.

In April, 2001, in advance to this initiative on the part of the OSFC, Fanning Howey created an in-house Sustainable Design Group comprised of professionals from a variety of disciplines. Today, Fanning Howey has 26 LEED® Accredited Professionals on staff, representing the architectural, engineering, specifications, and construction administration disciplines.

Fanning Howey believes that sustainable design issues merit more than just a “hot button” status - they are a natural product of a responsible, financially prudent approach to school design. Sustainable practices are an integral part of Fanning Howey’s design methodology. The experience of Fanning Howey dates back to 1979, when one of the first earth-sheltered schools was designed.

Fanning Howey's design methodology focuses on "student-centered sustainable design" solutions - those practices which have been proven to significantly impact the performance of both students and teachers. These factors include:

- Energy-Efficient HVAC Systems
- Environmentally-Preferable Building Materials
- Indoor Air Quality
- Integrated Daylighting and Electrical Lighting Systems
- Eco-Education

In order to lead - not follow - in this crucial area of educational design, Fanning Howey's professionals regularly publish their findings in periodicals or at national conferences.

Fanning Howey is an active member of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). In addition to attending the USGBC Member Summit and the USGBC Federal Summit, our professionals are involved with the formation of regional USGBC chapters.

Specialists in educational planning and design, Fanning Howey has two Celina office locations: 540 East Market Street and 1200 Irscher Boulevard. The firm has been providing award-winning planning and design services to public and private school clients and communities for forty-seven years. For more information, visit www.fhai.com.