

## SMCA ACADEMIC BUILDING RENOVATION

Location: Austin, TX  
Size: 13,140 sq ft

St. Michael's Catholic Academy (SMCA) opened in 1984 with a focus on college prep. But after 30 years, the campus's dated infrastructure had become a liability as Austin expanded rapidly and competition increased among area private schools. The transformation of the lobby and language/science wing of SMCA's academic building represents the first phase in a multi-year investment focused on reviving the campus through contemporary design.

The renovations introduced a consistent design approach that emphasized light, transparency, and technology. A labyrinthine cluster of administrative offices was replaced by a study hall and tutoring/conference rooms whose glass walls open up toward a new lounge and refurbished lobby. Laboratories and classrooms were completely overhauled—with improvements to lighting, furniture, A/V, and finishes—and the hallway was enlivened with floor-to-ceiling dry erase boards and large windows that allow views into the classrooms.



505 Powell St  
Austin, Texas 78703  
512.477.7016

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