

Del Lago Academy Campus of Applied Science

Escondido Union High School District, San Diego County

School of the Month

January 2014



All photos courtesy of Zach Benson Photography

Architectural Firm: BakerNowiki Design Studio

Designed around a core academic program that engages students in real world learning, Del Lago Academy—Campus of Applied Science prepares students for success beyond high school, through college and into their dream occupations. This college and career preparatory school of choice delivers a curriculum of career and technical education programs focused on biotechnology and health sciences, allowing the opportunity to meet the workforce needs of Escondido’s growing industries within these areas. The campus’ three buildings are home to 36 classrooms, including 8 science labs, a fitness center, and a dance studio.

Planning for this new concept high school involved students, parents, community stakeholders and industry partners (including Palomar Health,



New Construction

State Funds:	\$20.7 million
Funding Approved:	Various
Funding Received:	July 2013



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Life Technologies and others). This extensive process successfully defined educational philosophies, analyzed growth scenarios, and optimized operational financial objectives of the district.

Sustainability was integral in many of the design decisions. Features include photovoltaic (PV) shade canopies as well as PV panels on roof tops.

Throughout their high school experience, Del Lago students will be engaged in hands-on learning through opportunities such as job shadowing, mentorships, and internships. The design features



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designated collaboration space for project-based assignments and areas to encourage partnerships with higher education and industry leaders. A traditional cafeteria has been replaced with a café-style dining area that includes varied seating, lighting and LCD screens. The flexible-use fitness center supports Del Lago's commitment to student health and wellness through a variety of activities. The campus has attracted students, families, and industry leaders eager to be a part of this unique learning environment.

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