

Roger S. Oraze Elementary

Clovis Unified School District, Fresno County

School of the Month

March 2012



Paying homage to its location amid 16 acres of almond orchards, Roger S. Oraze Elementary School draws inspiration from its rural vernacular and has become a harbinger of community pride. Designed by HMC Architects to

reflect the agricultural heritage of California's Central Valley, the campus is a modern ranch, blending indoor and outdoor learning environments through the use of abundant glass, outdoor quads, and meandering trails.

Like many towns across the country, Clovis, California, has a rich connection with its schools, which informed many design decisions in the development of the new school. With schools being a vibrant part of this community, the campus was designed with permeable boundaries, eliminating walls and fences, and opening directly to the community. Fields and playgrounds are used extensively by students and through joint-use partnerships with community sports leagues.



New Construction

State Funds:	\$10.0 million
Funding Approved:	July 2009
Funding Received:	April 2010



Office of Public School Construction
STAFF TO THE STATE ALLOCATION BOARD

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The buildings, which occupy approximately 54,000 square feet, reference the color and design of classic barns. Classroom wings are designed to take advantage of daylight through the use of high ceilings and clerestory windows, which minimizes the need for artificial light. The buildings were designed with the ability to install photovoltaic panel arrays on the large sloping south-facing roofs, reducing the overall energy consumption by up to 20 percent.

A large multipurpose room, library and administration building, and a series of three classroom buildings complete the campus.



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