



## CASE STUDY

Discovery Elementary School,  
Arlington, VA



**Completed:** 2015   **Size:** 97,588 GSF

**Owner:** Arlington Public Schools   **Architect:** VMDO Architects

**General Contractor:** Siegel Construction   **ICF Contractor:** LTF

**Structural Engineer:** Fox & Associates   **Civil Engineer:** Bowman Consulting Group

**Attributes:** This school is the first net zero energy school in the Mid-Atlantic and the largest in the United States. The building has a capacity of 650 students in grades Pre-K through 5. In design, attention was focused on designing and building a school that supports how and where students learn. Every nook and cranny is arranged to create seamless integration between design, sustainability and learning. Features include 1,706 room-mounted solar panels, geothermal well field, solar pre-heat of domestic water, 100% LED lighting, ideal solar orientation and shading, ICF exterior walls with high thermal mass, dashboard system that tracks energy in real time and bioretention areas.

### Awards:

2016 Project of distinction by Association for Learning Environments

2016 Honor Award by AIA Central Virginia Fall

2016 Honorable mention by Learning by Design

2015 Award of Excellence by Design Arlington Awards