



BASIS SCHOOL

Independent
Pre K-12 School

CHALLENGE

- Declared “Brownfield” site with poor soils conditions
- Uniquely-angled modules required for design—match angled site-built structures
- Day-lighting strategy required asymmetric window placements
- Limited staging and laydown area in dense, urban setting
- Tight budget

SOLUTION

- Meticulous planning allowed ~70% to be completed off site
- “Build Together” approach confirmed horizontal and vertical fit of uniquely-angled modules, staircases and railings
- “Urban industrial” interior design — ductwork, piping, sprinklers, and cabling installed in open ceilings

SUCCESS

- Greatly reduced disruption to neighborhood and build site
- Modules fit precisely with each other and site-built structures
- Exterior architectural panel system—cost-effective while complementing asymmetric window placements
- Exposed ductwork, piping, sprinklers, and cabling kept finish costs low

SCHEDULE ACCELERATION

LEAST SITE IMPACT

COST CERTAINTY

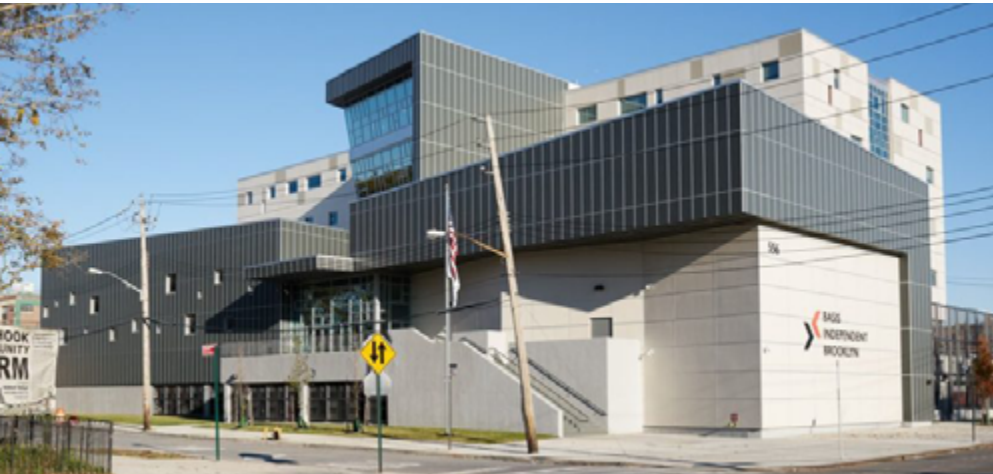


The upper four stories plus equipment penthouse of the Basis Independent School in Brooklyn, NY is 58,865 square feet of non-combustible modular construction featuring 32 spacious classrooms—including chemistry & biology labs—plus stairwells, bathrooms, and corridors.

The “Build Together” process assembled the modules both vertically and horizontally at the plant, just as they would be installed on site. This confirmed that the uniquely-angled modules fit with each other as well as with the site-built theatre, gym and lower floor structures. An angled glass rail was pre-installed at the plant along the angled second level corridor module to overlook the cafeteria floor below.

The architectural exterior panels were cost-effective, yet enhance the building’s beauty and support the unique day-lighting strategy. First, they echo the irregular rectangles of the multiple glazed curtain walls featured throughout the school, which flood the common areas, cafeteria and hallways with natural light. Second, the panels complement the asymmetrically-placed large and small windows that allow intriguing pockets of light into classrooms.

Finally, the interior features open and exposed ceilings, ductwork, piping and cable trays. This not only establishes an urban industrial aesthetic, but also helped minimize finish costs and speed completion.



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TIMELINE

548 days

SIZE

58,865 SF (Total Project 90,000 SF)

LOCATION

Brooklyn, NY

PARTNER

PFA - Partners for Architecture