Welcome to the Educational Leadership and Support Center

Introduction

The Educational Leadership and Support Center (ELS Center) houses administration and support departments for the Cedar Rapids Community School District. This is the first time the school district has had a single location for all departments. A flood recovery project, the lowest part of the ELS Center is eight feet above 2008 flood line. Construction of the 169,000 square-foot building was funded through FEMA, the State of Iowa, and SILO funds.

Outdoor Highlights

The Recognition Plaza is still under construction, this will feature dual video screens to display District information and Foundation donor information.

The Forum Area provides an outdoor meeting area.

There are 728 parking spaces. A Ring Road drive is available for overflow parking, bicycles, and walking.

Community Features

The ELS Center is open M-F from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In the absence of a receptionist, a phone system allows visitors to contact employees and departments within the building.

The terrazzo flooring in the lobby mirrors the design of Grant Wood’s painting, ‘Young Corn.’ The District owns this painting.

An Art Gallery will allow the District to partner with the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art to display pieces from the District collection. The Board of Education Room has seating for up to 50 patrons.

The Jefferson / Kennedy / Washington meeting rooms and Metro Computer Lab include interactive white boards.
The **Professional Development Center** - Known as the Cedar Room, this is the first time District has had staff development space that can accommodate up to 230 seated at tables, 300+ seated in chairs. The space can be configured in several ways, known as Cedar and, Cedar A, B, C. It also features a catering kitchen.

**Hoteling Stations** will provide patrons and employment applicants with computer access to complete paperwork and online materials. It will also provide staff an opportunity to check email during meeting breaks.

There is **elevator and stair access** from the main floor.

**Work Space Elements**

The building features **geothermal heating and cooling and indoor air quality systems**. An **open atrium** brings natural light into the core of the building and serves as a crossroads, creating meeting and gathering spaces, developing a sense of community and connectivity.

The **Transportation Department** has a separate area for driver parking. There is also a bus wash and storage facility.

The **Warehouse and Purchasing** department is a busy industrial work area, serving the second largest school district in the state.

The ELS Center **mailroom** sorts and distributes mail and materials to all District schools and support departments.

An emergency **Safe Room** on the lower level was funded through FEMA and Iowa Homeland Security Hazard Mitigation. It can hold up to 500 individuals.

**Storage space** is located on the lower level for maintaining District records and materials.

The **Graphics and Printing** Department is open to all District staff during business hours.

A **state-of-the-art video studio** allows the District to create educational and informational visual presentations.

**ELS Center Departments**

- Buildings and Grounds
- Business Services and Accounting
- Carpenter and Paint Shop
- Community Relations
- CREA and CROTA
- Curriculum
- Custodial and Maintenance Services
- Early Learning
- Food and Nutrition
- Foundation
- Graphics and Printing
- Health Services
- Human Resources
- Learning and Leadership
- Mailing Services
- PACT
- Payroll and Benefits
- Purchasing and Warehouse
- Research and Evaluation
- Special Services
- Student Services
- Superintendent’s Office
- Technology
- Transportation
- TV Video Services
- Volunteer Services