

AMES HIGH SCHOOL

Ames, Iowa

Project Data

Construction: \$137,000,000 MEPT Construction: \$35,000,000 Size: 432,755-sf

Reference

Story Construction Mike Espeset President 515.817.2681 mespeset@storycon.com

Architect

OPN Architects 100 Court Ave St #100 Des Moines, IA 50309 515.309.0722

Specialty Consultants

Acoustical: Threshold Theatre: Schuler Shook Pool: Counsilman-Hunsaker Food Service: Rippe Associates Energy: The Energy Group

Project Stats

- Harrison Barnes Competition Gym
- Seating for 1,860
- 9 laps = 1 mile

Competition Swimming Pool

- Seating for 484 (338 balcony)
- 460,000 gallons, 12'3" deepest
- Practice Gymnasium
- Seating for 180
- ICC 500 Storm Shelter
- 11.5" thick concrete roof

Performing Arts Theater

- Seating 944 (274 balcony)
- Mechanical Orchestra Pit Lift
- Double-height panels for 72' fly

Geothermal System

- Five 250 ton chillers
- Closed loop vertical ground heat exchanger
- 312 boreholes 400 ft deep
- 47 miles of piping

Awards

2025 IES Illumination Awards, Merit



Completed in Fall 2022, this all-new home of the Ames Cyclones was built on-site with the existing high school. Careful planning, community dialog, and utility phasing allowed both school access and construction to continue during the 3-year process.

The new high school, Ames' 5th in 152 years, includes classrooms, a 1000-seat auditorium, media center, fine arts and technology and industrial arts spaces, a greenhouse, three gymnasiums, wrestling and training rooms as part of the athletics wing and a new competition pool. A full-service kitchen and administrative offices, as well as the auditorium and the competition gym, are accessible from the welcoming commons area.

This 21st-Century Learning Environment has a capacity for 1,600 students and the capability to expand and support up to 1,800. The building MEP systems have been designed to support the construction of a 15,000-sf addition.

Mechanical and electrical systems include a geothermal central plant system that supplies hot water and chilled water to a system of energy recovery units, air handling units and fan coil units, LED lighting with occupancy sensors and daylight harvesting and site lighting for the parking lots and pedestrian walkways.

A ground-mounted photovoltaic array is included for student use.

