



## HMC News Release

Contact: Tracy Black (800) 350-9979

### **San Diego's Newest Elementary School Exceeds California's Title 24 Energy Efficiency Requirements by Nearly 25 Percent**

SAN DIEGO, Calif., August 2008—Sherman Elementary School opens this month for the 2008-2009 school year, continuing the architectural renaissance that has been taking place in San Diego's Sherman Heights community during the past few years.

The \$27 million school, designed by HMC Architects, was redesigned and reconstructed with Proposition MM funds along with matching grants from the state. The school is located at 450 24<sup>th</sup> Street, less than a mile east of downtown San Diego.

"We've significantly improved the functionality of the school to bring it to current architectural standards and to create better learning environments for the students," said Stacy Strand, AIA, an HMC principal who managed the project. The school, which HMC designed to blend in with the American Craftsman-style homes in the area, also exceeds California's Title 24 energy efficiency requirements by nearly 25 percent, he said.

"HMC Architects did an excellent job integrating the design of the reconstruction into the fabric of the neighborhood and working with community members to come up with something that everyone appreciates and enjoys," said Jim Watts, San Diego Unified School District's director of architecture and planning. "The project went very smoothly with a minimum amount of change orders or problems."

According to David Rova, managing principal and design director of HMC's San Diego studio, "This is a great example of how listening to the client and its community can help shape the right solution. We believe that each project has a unique context; it may come from the surrounding neighborhood or even the diverse stakeholders it serves. It's exciting to see how the design of this new elementary school successfully responds to the context of its specific community."

Throughout its history, HMC Architects has established a reputation as an award-winning design firm and thought leader for education, healthcare, and government facilities. Founded in 1940, HMC is one of the most prominent planning and design firms with offices strategically located throughout the West. To learn more about HMC Architects or to arrange interviews with the firm's executive leadership, please contact Tracy Black at (800) 350-9979, or [tracy.black@hmcarchitects.com](mailto:tracy.black@hmcarchitects.com) and visit [www.hmcarchitects.com](http://www.hmcarchitects.com).