

[Between us, ideas become reality.]®

case study

PROJECT . . . Sanderson High School
LOCATION . . . Raleigh, NC
ARCHITECT . . . Hayes-Howell,
Southern Pines, NC
PRODUCT . . . MetalWorks™ Vector™,
Serpentina®

The Challenge:

Introduce a sense of sophistication into a 32-year-old high school while staying within budget.

When Sanderson High School in Raleigh, NC, recently underwent a renovation, Hayes-Howell of Southern Pines, NC, the school's architectural firm, was looking for ways to change the facility's "vanilla" appearance.

"One of our main objectives was to infuse a sense of fun into the building," states K.C. Underwood, the Hayes-Howell principal in charge of the project. "To do that, we needed to make the public spaces more memorable."

One of the ways he accomplished that goal was the creative use of the ceiling. "We felt that by changing a ceiling's color, texture, pattern and height in a public space, we could make each space more of a landmark within the school."

The Solution:

The selective use of metal ceilings from Armstrong. For example, Underwood created coffered ceilings featuring MetalWorks Vector perforated metal ceiling panels in the main entrance lobby and media center.

The smooth, silver gray panels are installed in a 15/16" exposed tee suspension system. However, their unique Vector edge detail produces a sleek 1/4" reveal that minimizes the visible grid and creates an upscale visual.

The entrance to the media center, however, presented a problem. "The mechanical contractor roughed in the new HVAC system without taking the new ceiling into account," Underwood explains, "so now we had to design a new ceiling to conceal the HVAC equipment."

The solution was a distinctive, undulating ceiling using the Armstrong Serpentina three-dimensional ceiling system. "A curved ceiling was not part of the original ceiling plan, but now I'd do it over again because it creates so much more of a focal point."

