The 1960s-era Del Norte High School campus is located on one of Albuquerque's busiest intersections and is a critical part of the city's main school district. As such, the project team was charged with keeping existing buildings on campus operating during construction of the new $155,000,000 replacement high school.

Careful planning, just-in-time deliveries and scheduling of critical infrastructure work during holiday breaks allowed the campus to remain fully operational during construction.

The new structure accommodates up to 1,200 students, organized into small learning communities where four general-purpose classrooms are clustered with a science lab, a teachers' office and student common areas.

The three-story building makes the most of its tight footprint by stacking the small learning communities vertically, giving the school an urban feel. A separate academy for ninth graders is situated on the ground floor, with a distinct entryway to create a separate identity for the academy.

The design of the $61 million academy was inspired by the school's book-centered curriculum and reflects the form of an open book. A butterfly roof represents the book's cover, while metal panels and the linear carport bands of the building skin symbolize the pages beneath the cover. The linear window openings signify way light illuminates the pages of a book as it is opened. Built in less than seven months, the core building includes classrooms on two levels that open to an exterior courtyard, providing students with ample natural light and a safe place to play. A second building includes a cafeteria, music room and a professional-style gymnasium. Durable polished concrete runs throughout most of the interior.

In addition to Concrete Restoration Systems (CRS) products, MAPEI has been providing fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) products since 1997 and has been a major supplier of FRP systems in Europe. In fact, MAPEI Group is a member of the joint commission for the research of composite materials at ELSA (European Laboratory for Structural Assessment) in Legnate, Italy. The company's first major project was the historical restoration of the St. Francis of Assisi Basilica in Italy.

Across the Americas, MAPEI's CRS total solutions have been utilized for bridges, highways, parking garages, stadiums, buildings and other structures. The company offers a full spectrum of concrete restoration products, including repair mortars and epoxies, self-levelers, construction grouts, waterproofing products, primers, sealers and decorative topcoats.

For details, contact your local MAPEI CRS sales representative.