Rosebank **Elementary School**

For Rosebank **Elementary School**, **Carden Company** faced a 2-year gutting and rebuild, with much of the construction having to be done while school was in session.





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Carden's experience and expertise in phased renovations was put to the test.

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Originally built in the 1960s, Rosebank Elementary had been through some remodeling before, but it was time for an overhaul: gutting the 36,000-square-foot building, updating the HVAC and plumbing, even opening up windows that had been bricked-up in prior remodels. It was a large project that couldn't be completed during a summer break. So Carden Company managed a phased construction: during the school year, one section of the school was closed off for construction, with all school activity moved into the rest of the space. When work was completed in the first section, everyone was moved over and renovation began on the other side.

Maintaining normal operations during construction - in this case, that included the safety of 300 preK to 4th grade students - while organizing an effective work site is a challenge Carden Company has taken on several times (e.g. St. Paul Christian Academy, Lebanon Fire Station, Ford of Franklin).

The architects and school representatives were impressed with Carden's management of the project. Architects Sonja Wilson and Justin Lowe, of Centric Architecture, said that accommodating the school schedule, keeping the kids safe and the construction site closed off and functioning efficiently, were the main challenges. "They were really good at this type of project with its complicated phasing."

The experience of the Carden team was a big part of that success. "Our superintendent was excellent – I think the school adopted him as family by the end. He was accessible, easy to talk to, contributed to project meetings; he had a lot of knowledge and background that helped with this particular project," said Jennifer Earwood, Metro Nashville Public School construction representative, adding, "Our project manager was great, too. He was very responsive - even now when we have some items we need help with. They were an excellent team for this project."