

Northern Virginia's New Epicenter for Economic Growth

Project Name / Location

Regional Center for Workforce Education + Training / Woodbridge, VA

Project Category

Higher Education

Program

55,000 sf, institutional facility

Project Synopsis

Before the new Regional Center for Workforce Education and Training (RCWET) was built at the entrance of the Woodbridge Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College system, the campus had no physical presence and direct link to the community. All its existing facilities were located out of sight, down a ravine. With the intent of better announcing the presence of the campus and link the college to its

community, the new Workforce Center not only is a new beacon, it is a new building type that provides superior training and education in cybersecurity, healthcare, information technology, and program management.

The building's positioning, geometry and transparency intentionally provide a connection to the neighborhood in which it sits. The telescoping spine space purpose-

fully provides views to the community and campus, connecting the two visually and serves as an organizing element that supports an academic classroom bar to one side (south) and a multi-purpose hall to the other (north). The inviting contemporary character of the structure with its sustainable features and design is meant to illustrate to the community the connection the campus is making

between its present and its future. Designed to support new programs, attract new students, and help create new partnerships, this exciting new facility is the visible hub helping shape a workforce that meets the fast-paced technology driven needs of Northern Virginia and its landmark presence acts as the new epicenter of economic development and community connectivity.





view from Neabsco Mills Road and North College Drive



site plan



- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ① Entrance Vestibule | ⑦ Labs/Teach Space |
| ② Reception Desk | ⑧ Cafe |
| ③ Public Assembly Space | ⑨ Administration / Office |
| ④ Lounge | ⑩ Classrooms |
| ⑤ Multi-purpose Room | ⑪ Service Areas |
| ⑥ Auditorium | |



0' 25' 50'



first floor plan



⑫ Labs/Teaching Space

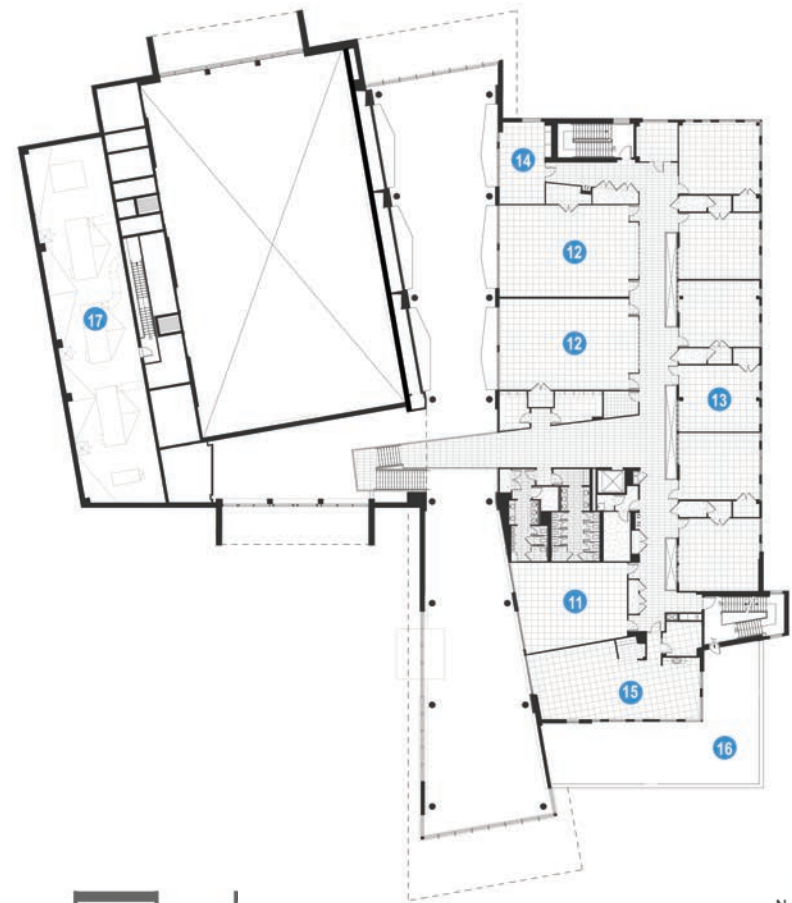
⑬ Classrooms

⑭ Conference Room

⑮ Testing Center

⑯ Outdoor Terrace

⑰ Mechanical Penthouse



0' 25' 50'



second floor plan



entrance vestibule



The interior of the building is organized by the main circulation spine, the main hall. Functions within the main hall include the building lobby, reception area, the multi-purpose hall lobby, and break-out spaces. A double-loaded corridor serves the academic classroom bar to the south of the main hall while the large multi-purpose hall is accessed directly from the main hall. Along the perimeter of the academic bar are a combination of classrooms, conference rooms, and offices. Computer labs, bio-tech labs, and restrooms are located toward the building interior. A service corridor is located to the north of the multi-purpose hall, and provides access from the loading dock, mechanical spaces, electrical room, catering kitchen, and storage and staging spaces that serve the multi-purpose hall.

Designed for a community immersed in technology, the new Regional Center for Workforce Education and Training enhances the NOVA Woodbridge Campus mission by maximizing connections between interior space, landscape, and the surrounding community while adding sensory excitement through views to the exterior, letting the user enjoy sunlight, watch the change of seasons, experience color, texture, and letting the building be a beacon of the community.

