Since 1996, 278 neighborhood schools have been closed, while 400 new schools opened. Faced with an aging junior high facility, originally built in 1931, and a growing student population, the Escanaba Area Public Schools hired Diekema Hamann Architecture to explore options to meet the district’s junior high facility needs. The architects recommended renovating and expanding the existing facility. Strong community support and the detailed report persuaded the district to accept the architect’s recommendation.

The rehabilitated historic building coupled with the new addition of approximately 48,000 square feet of space meets the district’s and the architect’s goals for creating a flexible, state of the art environment that will foster learning among school children.

Escanaba Area Public Schools and Diekema Hamann Architecture are to be commended for investing in this historic neighborhood school and preserving it for the community and for future Escanaba Junior High students.