



Vancouver, BC:

This addition to Captain James Cook Elementary School in the southeastern area of Vancouver provided eight new regular classrooms and a special education classroom that replaced a number of portables on the site. The existing gymnasium was also enlarged to accommodate an increased school capacity of 500 elementary plus 40 kindergarten students.

The new classrooms extend south of an existing two-storey wing of the school, originally built in 1958. A new entrance at the juncture of the two provides access from parking and the west yard playground. The entrance path leads to a new gate from a proposed housing development on adjacent lands. A stairway and landscaped ramp at the south end of the building opens to the larger play fields to the east. Roof extensions over these two entrances provide shelter to the children while queuing to enter the school.

Wall finishes are generally in durable materials such as painted concrete block with rainscreen stucco in higher less vulnerable panels. Window bays are expressed with deference to earlier portions of the school and incorporate storage shelves below for classroom activity areas. Each classroom has an articulated perimeter to accommodate prep areas for teachers, students' cubbies, storage, display, and activity support. A simple common wall between pairs of classrooms allows for future interconnection or combination.