

Translucent Custom Canopy - Hurricane Resistant

Owner:

St. Bernard Parish School Board

Architect:

Lachin Oubre & Associates

General Contractor:

Core Constuction Services, LLC

CPI Rep:

Glendale Enterprises Inc.



Photo: Carl Bordelon

CPI Daylighting's translucent custom canopy system at Chalmette High School features high wind and hurricane resistance

Located just south of New Orleans, Chalmette High School literally served as a lifeboat for its community during Hurricane Katrina. The school's second floor provided a refuge, while the first floor flooded with 8-ft. of water.

Almost a decade later, the 221,000-sq.-ft. high school has been refurbished and extended to accommodate the area's 1,200 students, including 5,500-sq.-ft. of green translucent canopies that provide shelter over a courtyard joining the original building with its new addition - **designed, engineered and manufactured from the ground up by CPI Daylighting.**

"One of the reasons we chose the CPI Daylighting canopy was the durability of its Pentaglas panels. It has the ability to be put up in a hurricane zone and has the wind and impact resistance we're looking for," said Fred Allison, project architect, Lachin Oubre & Associates, New Orleans. "The color ranges the panels came in was also important. We're using a certain palette of colors and this blended well."

The custom translucent canopies at Chalmette High feature CPI Daylighting's green 16mm Pentaglas® Nano-Cell® glazing, and provide diffused natural daylight into the space below. The durable shelter was also designed to meet the stringent Miami-Dade County code for wind uplift.

Designed to both connect two buildings of different heights and reflect the school's mascot, the Owl, the unique curved shape structure was built with two sweeps – like an Owl with open wings.

Chalmette High School

“We wanted a system that covered you from the elements and could accommodate a large number of people at a time as well as something that would be attractive - a landmark for the school. And that’s what we got,” said Albert Carey Jr., architect, construction manager, St. Bernard Parish School Board.

The canopy has created a central circulation space for students and faculty, as well as a gathering space to accommodate cafeteria overflow, outdoor jazz concerts, and other school events.

“The students got back the courtyard they lost in Katrina,” said Carey. “Only now it’s much better because it’s much more usable to them.”



Photo: Carl Bordelon

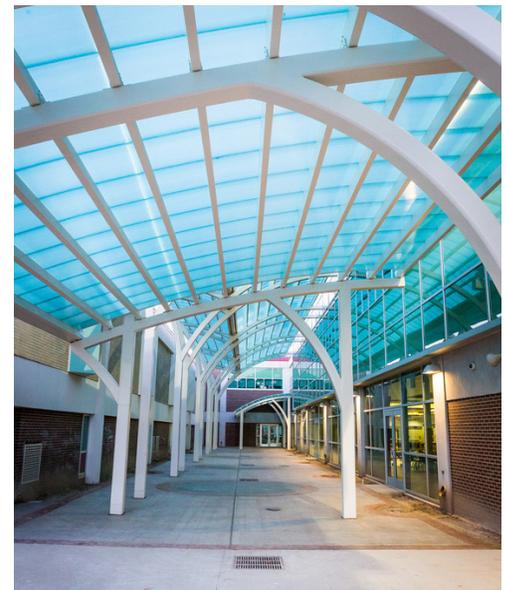


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CPI Daylighting pioneered the use of polycarbonate translucent panel systems for architectural use in 1980. Today, CPI continues to offer new and innovative daylighting products, including skylights, wall lights and canopies for any commercial, industrial and institutional application, with complete services from manufacturing to design and installation. CPI products enhance the sustainability of any high-performance building project through daylight transmission levels, optimized insulation values, thermal performance and recycled content.