

FRANKLIN ACADEMY (fka The Batt School)

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA

Formerly known as The Batt School, The Franklin Academy in Palm Beach Gardens on Hood Road boasts an 81,000 square foot facility including rooms for music, art, computer labs, science rooms and locker rooms. The campus also enjoys a gymnasium and athletic fields for the K-8 students enrolled. The educational development program can accommodate up to 1,340 students and provides educational and extracurricular activities of high standard.

Urban Design Studio was involved in the due diligence, entitlement, site planning and landscape planning for the Academy. Consistency with the comprehensive plan was a key factor that was examined. The underlying land use was mixed use while the zoning at the time did not match. UDKS worked through a successful re-zoning process that allowed a mixed-use zoning approval for the Academy and exemption from the residential component due to compliance with code that the project was able to meet.

Additionally, in an effort to further satisfy mandates of the comprehensive plan and showcase creative and innovative design, multiple waivers regarding signage and parking were proposed. Part of this signage includes an entry arch upon arrival at the school. The entry arch symbolizes traditional quality education and dons the name of the school in 24-inch black metal letters.

Franklin Academy operates with additional campuses in the South Florida Region, and regularly works with Urban Design Studio on these projects given the proven track record of innovative design and quality consultancy.

Client: Florida Charter Foundation, Inc.

Site Area: 9.42 acres

