

Community Tectonics Architects News

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Community Tectonics Architects makes school presentation to major southeastern education meeting

(April 12, 2004) -- Community Tectonics Architects Chief Executive Officer Don Shell has been selected to make a presentation to the southeast regional meeting of the Council of Educational Facility Planners on Tuesday, April 13, in Savannah, Georgia.

Shell's presentation to the gathering of educators, architects, school planners and state and local officials will be on the design of the Cleveland, Tennessee Middle School, for which Community Tectonics Architects has won several major awards.

"It is an honor for Community Tectonics Architects to present to this important conference, particularly in light of the thousands of middle schools throughout the country," said Shell. "We are very proud of our work on the Cleveland Middle School, and how its design is performing for faculty, students and parents."

The 1,400-student Cleveland Middle School, completed in August 2001, was cited by Dr. Paul S. George, a national authority on middle schools, as one of the best-designed schools of its type in the country.

In his book, *The Exemplary Middle School*, Dr. George wrote, "We find few buildings to be more flexible and, simultaneously, more accommodating to middle school concepts than that of the Cleveland Middle School plant. We recommend it for consideration by planners investigating new middle school designs."

Shell, Cleveland City Schools Director Rick Denning and Principal Dr. Ashley Smith will also present a program on the school district's planning and community involvement processes instrumental in creating the school. Their program will include:

- design features and response to the educational program
- teaching methodologies and relationship to design
- post-occupancy evaluation

The Tennessee School Board Association presented Community Tectonics and the Cleveland City School District a "School of the Year Award" in 2001. In 2003 the CEFPP awarded Community Tectonics with its "Best in Middle School Category" for exceptional design and responsiveness to middle school students' educational needs.

A full-service architectural firm, Community Tectonics Architects in the educational field alone has designed more than 600 schools, has worked with 43 school systems and has completed 18 system-wide facility master plans.

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