New HCLS Elkridge Branch + DIY Education Center

FACT SHEET

Howard County Government: Allan Kittleman, County Executive
Howard County Library System Board of Trustees: Louise Riemer, Chair
Howard County Library System: Ann Gilligan, Interim President & CEO
Architects: Grimm + Parker Architects
Building Contractor: Costello Construction
Landscape Architect / Site Contractor: Bradley Site Design
Location: 6540 Washington Blvd Elkridge MD 21075
Project Cost: $33.1M
Grand Opening: March 10, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

More than doubling in size, the new HCLS Elkridge Branch + DIY Education Center strengthens the three pillars of HCLS’ educational mission.

- **Self-directed Education**: Ample space is allocated for books, materials and computers in the Children's, Teen and Adult collection areas, and a DIY collection in the DIY Education Center. Reading areas, quiet study rooms and a group study room allow customers to focus on their research and work without distraction.

- **Research Assistance & Instruction**: Research and Customer Service desks have been located to deliver exceptional customer service and personalized research assistance. The new building includes a children’s classroom, outdoor classroom, HiTech classroom, and Design Studio.

- **Instructive & Enlightening Experiences**: The building features a dual meeting room configuration that can host groups from 10 – 250 people, a conference room, and a vending café.

The new branch is designed to LEED Silver standards. It uses energy efficient light and plumbing fixtures and features sustainable materials. Expansive exterior windows allow natural light to flood the entire building.

Facts — General

- Total square feet: 35,000
- Project cost: $33.1M, funded by Howard County Government and the County Library Capital Grant Program, Maryland State Library

Facts – Curriculum

- Up to five percent more items in the collection (books, audiobooks, eBooks, films, music, specialized online research tools, and DIY tools)
- 60 computers with word processing capabilities (50 percent increase)
- Plentiful study areas/soft seating
- Six study rooms for 4 to 6 people each
- One conference room: 290 sq. ft. (25 seat capacity)
- Two meeting rooms: 900 sq. ft. each or 1800 sq. ft. combined (100 capacity each)
- Children’s classroom: 830 sq. ft.
- HiTech classroom: 650 sq. ft.
- Spiny Dogfish Café: vending café with table, chairs, and vending machine
- Business Center equipped with fax machine, copiers, and [number] computers
- DIY Education Center
- Design studio: 700 sq. ft.
- 166 parking spaces (50 percent more)

**DIY EDUCATION CENTER**

A signature component of the new branch, the DIY Education Center features a borrowing collection of tools and classes for children, teens, and adults in the following categories:

- DIY Ed Repair & Maintain
- DIY Ed Create
- DIY Ed Adventure

Optimizing collaboration and creativity, the DIY Education Center includes:

- **DIY Collection:** Small tools for home projects, bicycle repair kits, etc.
- **DIY Institute:** A series of DIY classes for students of all ages
- **DIY Ed Studio:** A “mess-friendly” classroom and workspace