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Concrete Masonry Interior Walls - Abuse Resistant and Quiet

In light of the situation in the world today, it is more important than ever to consider the stability and stamina of our building structures and most especially our schools. When every community dollar spent on a school project counts, you can count on concrete masonry to come through with all the elements to make a school building work for the students, maintenance staff and the community.

Durability, ease of maintenance, appearance, and sound insulation qualities are just some of the reasons to choose concrete masonry over competing products. "Interior walls constructed of concrete block just make good sense economically and aesthetically" states Dr. Don Bell, Superintendent of Northern Lebanon School District in Pennsylvania. "It is well documented that concrete masonry is not easily vandalized, structurally durable, fire resistant and easily maintained for the life of the facility. This translates into excellent life cycle cost savings to the community."

Noise control is an issue of concern, not only in classrooms, but also in gymnasiums and cafeterias. The sound deadening qualities of block interior walls make good sense when thinking of students who need to concentrate on their studies while gym classes and lunch breaks are going on at the same time. "To maintain the integrity of the sound reducing qualities of the block while creating a pleasing look to the walls, we chose to paint the gymnasium walls six feet up from the floor then stained the remaining block." Dr. Bell related.

The practical placement of display boards, televisions, chalk boards, maps, trophy cases and other pieces of equipment is easily handled with a concrete block wall. These items can be placed wherever appropriate with no need to look for a stud in the wall to anchor the screw or nail. Dr. Bell added, "We like to place framed motivational posters in our hallways and can do so easily with frames attached to the block walls. The product just really works well in so many applications."

There is a sense of community pride when providing a new or renovated school building. "Masons who reside in the community were employed to lay the block. They are motivated to provide the best job possible for their friends and neighbors, whose children will spend their days in the building." he said.

The advantages of concrete masonry interior walls for school construction are clear. For more information, contact Executive Director, Jan Boyer, at the Pennsylvania Concrete Masonry Association (PCMA), 717-279-6346 or visit our website www.pacma.com.