



Submitted by Quality Electric

The new Weld Central High School and Auditorium is a reverse-pentagon-designed school surrounded on four sides by farm land, further emphasizing its remote nature. It features three classroom wings, computer labs, agricultural and wood shops, trout and native fish habitat and provisions for a future greenhouse.

A "black box" theater with flexible performance space for small productions, scene work, one-act plays and vignettes, seats about 70 people. The 500-seat auditorium will be used not only for school productions but also for other civic functions.

The design team's goal for the school was to consider initial costs on every system and factor in long-range operating costs for the RE-3J School District. A number of methods were used, including the use of indirect lighting controlled by occupancy sensors in the classrooms, which will provide the best educational lighting available at a cost savings of \$63,000 over the next seven years. Whenever possible, local businesses helped.

A 12-month schedule - nine months of it during the academic year - for design, studies and completion of the 166,000 sq-ft project added to the challenge. Also, because of a lack of water, underground storage tanks were installed with electrically powered pumps for better water pressure.

Weld Central High School & Auditorium

Keenesburg

Owner: Weld County School District RE-3

Design-Builder: The Neenan Co.

Engineering/Design Consultants: Quality Electric Inc.

Among the Subcontractors: Innovative Mechanical Systems, DRD Plumbing, Zastrow Plumbing, Reese Electric



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