LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE
• Certified “Living” April 10, 2013
• One of the first projects in the world to pursue the Living Building Challenge v2.0 criteria and the first to achieve it.
• Fourth full petal certified Living Building in the world and the first in Washington State.
• First certified Living Building on an urban site and incorporating the v2.0 requirement for urban agriculture.

EQUITY AND BEAUTY
• “Right-sized” building for the site with ample light and views
• Cooperative and integrated design process involving design team and school community
• Biophilic elements throughout with organic forms, natural light and air, and indoor/outdoor spaces
• Art objects that are teaching elements including cast salmon, beetles, kelp forms, and manhole covers depicting the structure of an eyeball and the water cycle.

SUSTAINABLE ELEMENTS
• Net-zero energy: solar power from 20 kilowatt PV system
• Net-zero water: rainwater harvesting, green roof, rain garden, composting toilet, potable water treatment system and interior green wall to treat grey water
• Ethnobotanical garden which features native and drought tolerant plants that produce edible fruit and craft materials.
• FSC Certified wood throughout
• Red List compliant materials from local sources

A LEARNING TOOL
• All sustainable features, including monitoring equipment, are accessible and used by students.
• The Runnel and other water flow elements teach students about the water cycle.
• Garden plants enhance the study of botany and anthropology and may also be harvested for art projects.
• The Composting Toilet requires very little water and is not connected to the city sewer system.
• This facility is a learning tool for Bertschi and the greater community.