

THE KALWALL[®] STREET JOURNAL

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Volume 11, Issue 1, Winter 2007

www.kalwall.com

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Kalwall
WHAT'S NEWS

It has long been said that a picture is worth a thousand words. The covers of numerous magazines featuring Kalwall projects speak volumes about Kalwall...



SCHOOL BALANCING ENERGY EFFICIENCY WITH DAYLIGHTING TURNS TO KALWALL

The Roosevelt Elementary School in Elkhardt, Indiana, gets high marks as one of the first new buildings in the state to exceed upcoming changes to energy and building code requirements. "Initially, we expected that the stricter energy requirements would force us to sacrifice the positive health effects of natural daylighting in favor of energy efficiency," explains project architect Rick Boyd of Fanning Howey Associates. "We selected the new R-20 Kalwall+ Nanogel[®] aerogel translucent skylights because they are the only insulated daylighting products able to meet both the design and energy criteria." Translucent Kalwall also eliminates glare off of blackboards and computer screens, severely reducing eyestrain for students and teachers alike.

Structures Unlimited, Inc. designed and manufactured all the skylights and canopies for the school. A large pyramid skylight over the library – in fact, the largest in the world with Nanogel – measures 64 feet. Four pyramids measure 16 feet, and another, in a corridor, is 12 feet. Museum-quality Daylighting[™] showers the student dining area from a single, center ridge skylight (17 feet, 6 inches wide by 40 feet long). The main school entrance features a long canopy measuring 36 feet by 32 feet. Smaller gables over the school's other three entrances measure 16 feet by 8 feet each.

The Kalwall+ Nanogel daylighting system also offers other ergonomic benefits such as greatly reduced sound transmission and spectrally correct diffuse light. The height of the interior skylights is 64 feet, which can act as a sound tunnel. Fortunately, Nanogel insulation is a sound-absorbing material, which also reduces and reflects unwanted noise levels that can be quite deafening in a group of excited school children.

According to John Kabana of **Shaffner Heaney Associates**, a distributor of Kalwall products, "The building owners insisted that the new school meet the proposed new energy codes, even though the new regulations have



Photos by Bill Lempke

yet to be adopted. The Kalwall daylighting systems allowed them to create open, spacious environments that balance light and heat, a difficult task considering the new building envelope's R-value requirements." Adds Tony Gianesi, Facility General Manager, Elkhardt Community Schools, "The energy benefits are very visible. It opens up the building with natural light. Even on a cloudy day you can be in the space without turning on any lights. This is a real energy savings we experience every day."

