



## Case Study

### Madison Elementary School – West Allis, WI

#### Kindergarten ‘Cleans Up’ With New Washfountain

##### Challenge

Madison Elementary, part of the School District of West Allis – West Milwaukee, has more than 230 students enrolled in classes ranging from 4-year-old kindergarten to sixth grade. As with most older schools, Madison could use a few facility upgrades, particularly with regard to classroom handwashing areas.

After decades of use, a washfountain in Madison Elementary’s kindergarten classroom was wearing out and desperately needed to be replaced. “Most of the spray holes were permanently clogged, so the water would shoot out of the others and over the edge of the washfountain making a big mess,” said school custodian, Bill Ziolecki.

“Maintenance had become a big challenge on the old washfountain,” added Ziolecki. “It was also a bear to clean, and frankly, the bowl material looked better if we left it alone.”

## Solution

As part of an 80th Anniversary celebration, Bradley Corp. held a search for the “Ultimate Washfountain” to find the most unique, antique, or otherwise unusual washfountains. After judging the entries, visitors to Bradley’s Web site chose Madison Elementary as one of the ultimate winners. Most likely Madison was selected because their washfountain was extremely old, and a new washfountain would benefit kindergarten and first grade students.

In early 2003, Madison Elementary received their grand prize, a new Bradley Terreon® Classic Juvenile Height Washfountain. Juvenile-height washfountains accommodate at least three users – a feature that conserves water and energy and takes up less space than restrooms or classes equipped with conventional sinks.

## Washfountain 101

“We stress handwashing in our school because it helps prevent the spread of germs and disease,” said Madison Elementary principal, Lori Lester. In fact, in 2002, the school began requiring students to wash their hands before entering the lunchroom to promote a cleaner school environment.

Beyond the handwashing basics, a bustling kindergarten class like the one taught by third-year teacher Jennifer Maciejewski involves plenty of potentially messy projects.

“The washfountain is really easy for the kids to use and they don’t need to use their hands to turn on the faucet – that’s really handy when they are covered in paint,” said Maciejewski. “It can also be hard for students to turn faucets on and off. The washfountain is a lot more functional than a regular sink.”

Another nice feature is that the kids can put their arms right into the water and the mess stays in the bowl, rather than getting all over the counter and floor,” added Maciejewski.

Foot-activated washfountains like the one installed at Madison Elementary are easy to operate and the lower height means teachers do not need to lift smaller students up to the sink. The solid surface Terreon finish makes the washfountains as easy to keep clean as they are easy-to-use. Surface marks and scratches are repaired easily with everyday cleaners or fine-grit abrasives.

“The new Bradley washfountain is much easier to keep clean,” Ziolecki said. “I’d like to get washfountains throughout the entire school. The children really have fun using them.”

“Sometimes the kids have a little too much fun!,” laughed Maciejewski.



Bill Ziolecki, custodian for Madison Elementary School.

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– Bill Ziolecki  
Custodian  
Madison Elementary School



Kindergarteners are able to easily wash their hands using their new foot-controlled Bradley Terreon Classic Juvenile Height Washfountain.