



Case Study

St. Mary Parish School – Menomonee Falls, WI

School Improves Image, Student Hygiene with New Restrooms

Challenge

St. Mary Parish, a Catholic church and day school located in Menomonee Falls, Wis., has nearly 400 students. In 2004, St. Mary began a renovation project to update its 45-year-old restrooms. Sink drains were frequently clogged, faucets broken, and urinals without automatic flushes emitted plenty of unpleasant odors. Teachers, parishioners, and parents frequently complained about the restrooms.

“Maintenance had become a big problem and it was very difficult to keep the restrooms clean,” said David Ciepluch, director of building and grounds at St. Mary Parish. “They just didn’t look or smell very nice and some parents did not even want their children to use the restrooms while in school.”

Solution

Each restroom on the first and second floor of St. Mary School was completely gutted and redesigned to create a better restroom environment for users. Yellow tiles embedded into mortar on the walls were removed, and old floor tiles were replaced with neutral colored tiles. Energy-efficient lighting was installed, along with more efficient water closets and new automatic-flush urinals in the boy's restrooms. In the place of wall-mounted china sinks, Bradley Express® Lavatory Systems were installed. The three-station SS-Series lavatories selected ensure that groups of students are able to quickly wash their hands after using the restroom between classes and before lunch. The Terreon® solid surface material is durable enough for frequent use, yet the smooth continuous bowl is attractive and has the look and feel of individual lavs.

The unique Express Lav System has the economies and conveniences of a group handwashing fixture. It cuts down on installation time and costs, requires fewer connections and is easy to maintain. In addition to the new lavatories, Bradley Mills® Bradmar toilet partitions and other accessories were specified to complete the restrooms' transformation.

New Restrooms Make the Grade

"No other person at St. Mary's looked forward to the upgrade of those old restrooms more than me," said Ciepluch. "Although aesthetics aren't usually a factor when it comes to facility maintenance, I can't talk about our new restrooms without mentioning how terrific they look – the new sinks exceeded how well I imagined the upgrade would turn out."

Ciepluch says teachers no longer give him a hard time about the restrooms. He gets the impression that students are washing their hands more frequently and has seen them having fun using the sensor-operated lavs. "I've noticed a 'trickle down' effect from staff, parents, and students. Everyone seems to have a better attitude about the school and is excited about what we're doing."

Many of Ciepluch's cleaning challenges are a thing of the past with the new Express Lav Systems. Cleaning around faucets had been very time consuming, and now the integrated spray heads eliminate this chore. Drain clogs have also been eliminated.

"I would definitely encourage facility managers to go the Bradley route," Ciepluch added. "The benefits of a group handwashing system far outweigh installing individual wall-hung china sinks. The continuous bowl is easier to clean because there's only one area to scrub, there's less mess because the built-in soap dispensers are right over the bowl, and they're safer because there's no water on the floor."

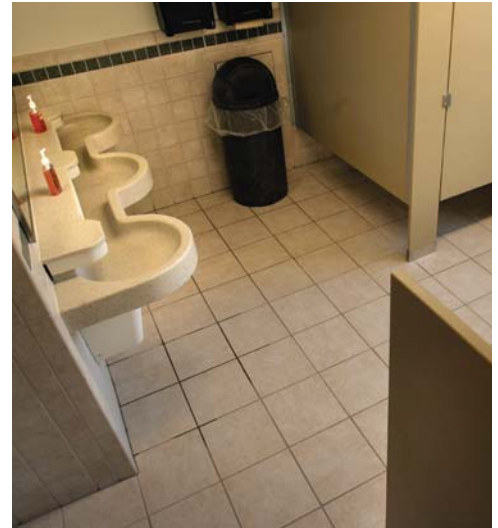
"Express Lavatory Systems also consolidate space and offer the ability to easily adjust the height. Overall, they're just a better long-term solution."



David Ciepluch appreciates that he no longer gets restroom complaints from teachers as he walks the halls.

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– David Ciepluch
Director of building & grounds
St. Mary Parish



The three-station SS-Series Express Lavatory System in the boy's restroom is extremely durable and has significantly reduced maintenance time and costs.